

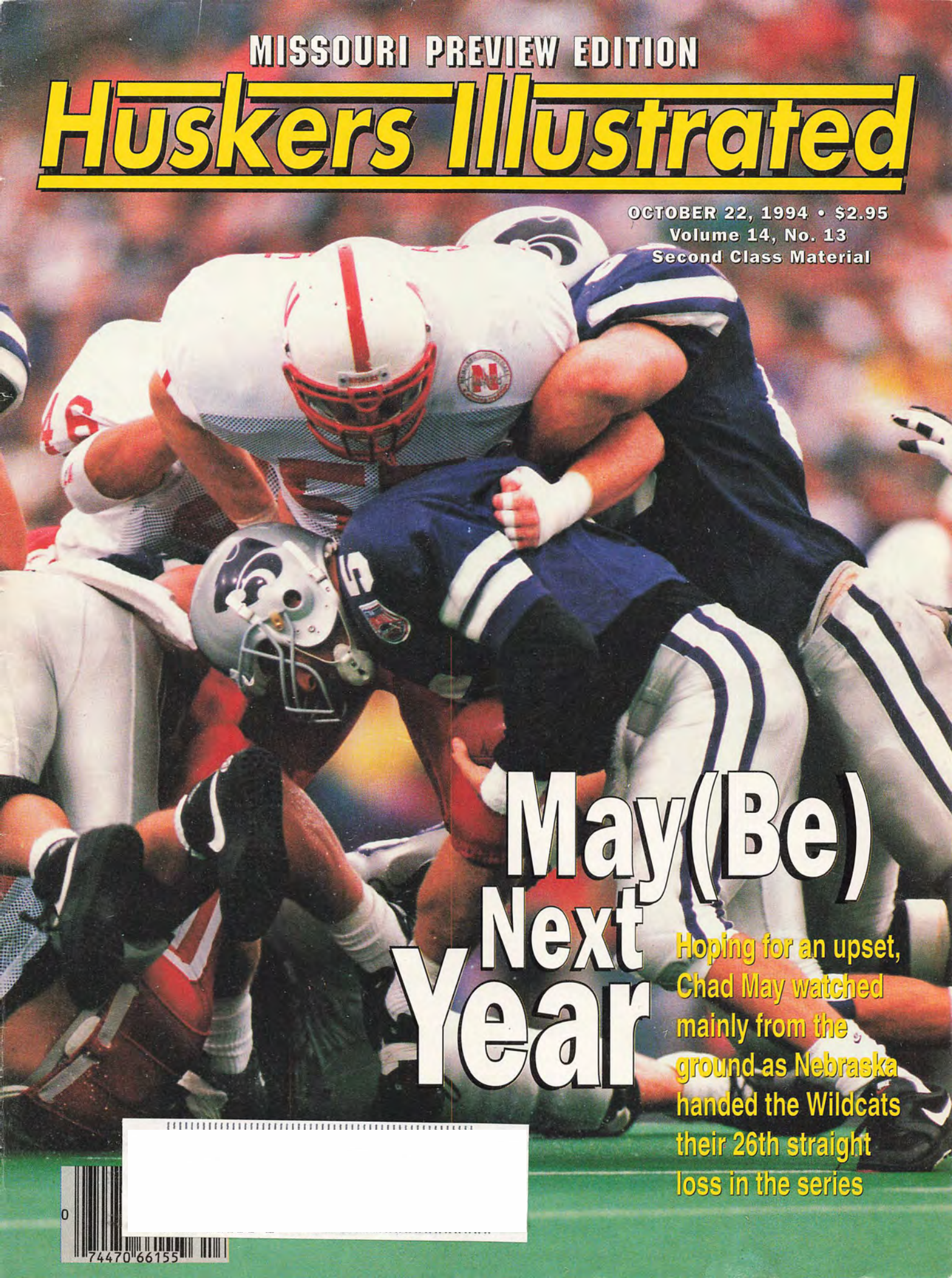
MISSOURI PREVIEW EDITION

Huskers Illustrated

OCTOBER 22, 1994 • \$2.95

Volume 14, No. 13

Second Class Material



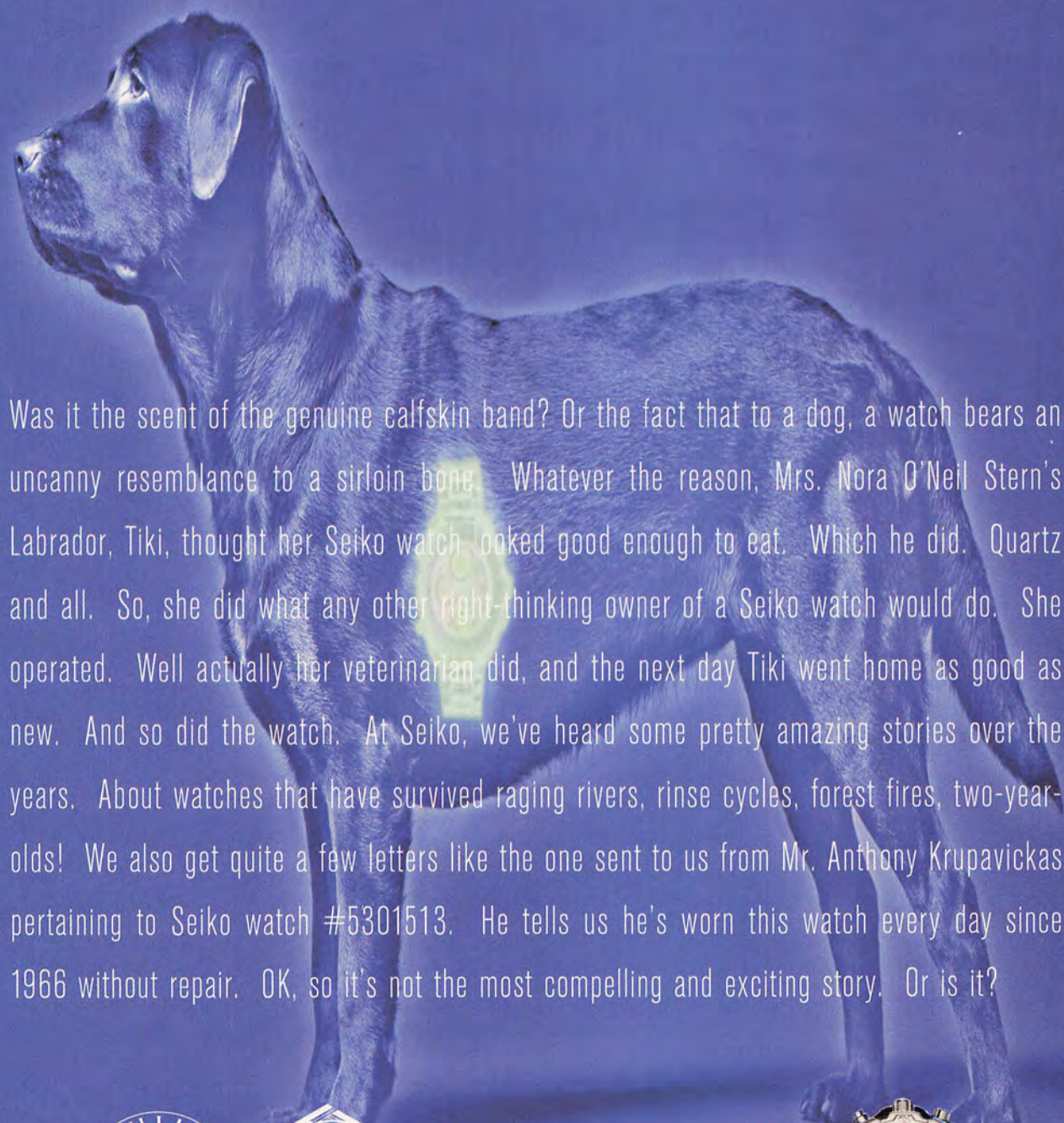
May(Be) Next Year

Hoping for an upset, Chad May watched mainly from the ground as Nebraska handed the Wildcats their 26th straight loss in the series



74470 66155

"A Labrador ate my Seiko." And other timeless tales.



Was it the scent of the genuine calfskin band? Or the fact that to a dog, a watch bears an uncanny resemblance to a sirloin bone. Whatever the reason, Mrs. Nora O'Neil Stern's Labrador, Tiki, thought her Seiko watch looked good enough to eat. Which he did. Quartz and all. So, she did what any other right-thinking owner of a Seiko watch would do. She operated. Well actually her veterinarian did, and the next day Tiki went home as good as new. And so did the watch. At Seiko, we've heard some pretty amazing stories over the years. About watches that have survived raging rivers, rinse cycles, forest fires, two-year-olds! We also get quite a few letters like the one sent to us from Mr. Anthony Krupavickas pertaining to Seiko watch #5301513. He tells us he's worn this watch every day since 1966 without repair. OK, so it's not the most compelling and exciting story. Or is it?

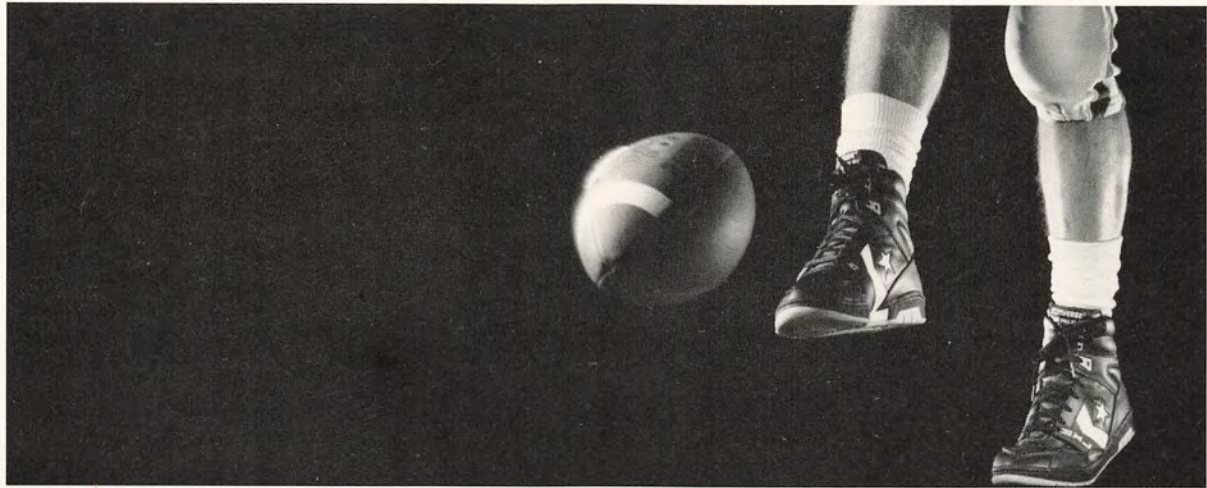


BORSHEIMS.
America's Largest Independent Jewelry Store.
Wedding & Gift Registry
Corporate Gift Division
120 Regency Parkway, Omaha
(402) 391-0400 (800) 642-GIFT



GOT A TIMELESS TALE? SEND IT TO SEIKO TIME, 1111 MACARTHUR BLVD., MAHWAH, NJ 07430. ATTN: AD
THREE-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY ONLY FROM AUTHORIZED SEIKO DEALERS. ©SEIKO TIME 1994

D I R E C T I O N



To be successful at anything, you need to focus in on
your target.

Security Mutual Life has been focused on helping
people achieve their financial goals for nearly 100 years.
And our sound management practices and strong
strategic planning have made us one of the strongest,
most secure insurance companies in the Midwest.

If your current financial plans are hitting wide of
the mark, contact a Security Mutual Life representative
today. We'll have you back on target in no time.

Security
Mutual Life
Dedicated to Your Security
Since 1895

200 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE (402) 477-4141

Nebraska offices in Scottsbluff, Kimball, McCook, North Platte, Kearney,
Burwell, Valentine, Columbus, Norfolk, Milford, Spencer, Albion, Fremont,
Lincoln, Beatrice, Omaha, Oakland and Bellevue.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF ADVISORS

Brent White, Team Industries, Lincoln
Mike Webb, Barry's Bar & Grill, Lincoln
Terry Randone, Midwest Hair Replacement, Omaha
Jim Bish, Winning Intersports Nostalgia, Manassas, Va.
Jim Heckman, Sports Image, Seattle, Wash.
Donald R. Peterson, FirstTier, Omaha
Fern Spencer, FirstTier, Lincoln
Quality Buick Dealers, Nebraska
Rick Heuertz, Mid-Continent Bottlers, Omaha
Mike Stoman, Mid-Continent Bottlers, Omaha
Susan Stoehr, N Street Drive-In, Lincoln
Leland Holdt, Security Mutual Life, Lincoln
Tom Henning, Security Mutual Life, Lincoln
Jeff Willard, Best Western Regency West Hotel, Omaha
Al Gilmore, Blue Cross & Blue Shield, Omaha
Kathy McMichael, Husker Heaven, Omaha
First National Bank of Omaha
Gary M. Baker, American Family Insurance, Omaha
Kirkpatrick Pettis, Omaha, Lincoln, Columbus
Borsheim's Fine Jewelry, Omaha

Carper's "O" Street Carpet, Lincoln
David Kovar, Pearle Vision Center, Lincoln, Grand Island
Jeff Jarecke, CableVision, Lincoln
Dean Jessick, Husker Glass, Inc., Omaha & Lincoln
D. Doc Chaves, Ameritas Life Insurance, Lincoln
Ron Wolfe, Diamond Vogel Paint Center, Omaha
Mike Pawloski, Continental Pool & Spa, Inc., Omaha
Clarence G. Albertson, Cornhusker International Trucks, Inc., Lincoln
L. Livingston, Big Red Shop, Lincoln
Ronald J. Palagi Law Offices, Omaha
John & Mike Lindley, Lindleys Men's Wear, Omaha
John "Bubba" Lawlor, Lawlor's Sporting Goods, Omaha, Lincoln
Howard Misle, Park Place Chevrolet & Imports, Inc., Lincoln
Mark Matousek, Lincoln Telephone/Cellular, Lincoln, Omaha
Blair Vogel, Diamond Products, Marshalltown, Iowa
Randy Heying, Vogel Graphic Services, Orange City, Iowa
Gary Michaels Clothiers, Hastings
Jack Bock, Beef Club President, UNL
Don Bryant, Touchdown Club, UNL
Heidi Cuca, Marketing Manager, Nebraska Athletics

SALUTE TO OUR NU BOOSTERS

17
COLORFUL
ACTION-PACKED
ISSUES DELIVERED RIGHT
TO YOUR DOOR ALL YEAR LONG

ONLY
\$42.90

FIRST CLASS MAILING AN ADDITIONAL \$16

☐ YES! please send me a subscription to

Huskers Illustrated

Save 20%! Receive 17 issues for only \$42.90

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ Payment Enclosed

☐ Bill Me

☐ Charge my:

☐ MC

☐ Visa

**ASK FOR
 OPERATOR 351**

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Mail to: Huskers Illustrated • P.O. Box 83222 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

**Weekly
 Issues During
 Football
 Season**

**June-July
 Giant Football
 Preview**

**Scouting
 Reports**

**Cage &
 Football
 Recruiting**

Player Profiles

Statistics

**Dramatic Color
 Photography**

**Basketball
 Preview Special**

CALL 1-800-341-1522 NOW AND SAVE 20% OFF NEWSSTANDS!

PUBLISHER:
Robert Bennett

**EDITORIAL & PRODUCTION
COORDINATOR:**
Chris Greer

PRODUCTION:
Jeff Cannon, Stephen Tiesman,
Vince Sclaro

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:
Mike Babcock, James Hale, Steve
Sipple, Mark Derowitsch, Mike Friend

**CONTRIBUTING
PHOTOGRAPHERS:**
Robert Berry, William Lauer,
Shon Knopp

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR:
John Baer

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR:
Todd McVeigh

CIRCULATION:
Ann Johnston, Laura Hawk

ACCOUNTING:
Kathleen Newton, Carolyn Rhodes

MARKETING ASSISTANT:
Christina Coulon

Volume 14, Number 13

Huskers Illustrated (ISSN 0279-3474) is published weekly from September through November except open dates; bi-monthly March; monthly January and February; bi-monthly April/May and June/July. Single issue cost \$2.95; subscription rate for one year (17 issues) is \$49.90. First Class postage is available for an additional charge of \$16.00 per year. Foreign postage \$34.00. Huskers Illustrated is published by College Sports Communications, Inc., 4099 McEwen, Suite 350, Dallas, Texas 75244-5039, (214) 742-2000 or (800) 397-3715. Second Class Postage paid at Dallas, Texas and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Huskers Illustrated, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Neb. 68501.

Address all editorial related correspondence to Huskers Illustrated, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501. Reproduction or use of editorial or graphics content in any manner without permission is prohibited. Photographs and manuscripts for publications are welcome, but will not be acknowledged or returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. Production offices are located at 4099 McEwen Dr., Suite 350, Dallas, Texas 75244. Telephone: 214/851-1712.

For Subscription Inquiries call 1-800-397-3715 or mail to P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3222. Allow six to eight weeks for response. Give old and new addresses and enclose latest mailing address label when writing about your subscription.

CSAN
College Sports Affiliates Network
4099 McEwen • Suite 350 • Dallas, Texas 75244 • 214-851-1770

Customer Service

1-800-397-3715

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Central Time)

Huskers Illustrated

C O N T E N T S

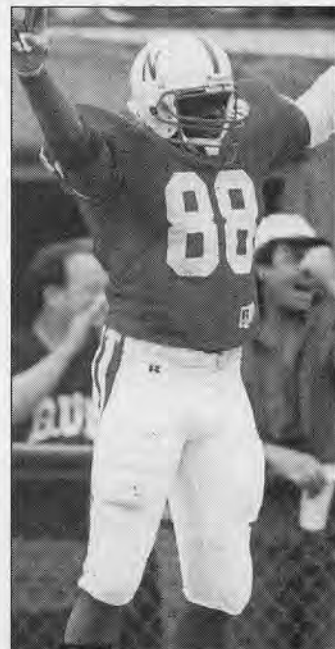
October 22, 1994 • Volume 14, No. 13

FEATURES

- 10 Change of Direction**
No more running from the police for Eric Alford, who has found a better use for his speed.
by Steve Sipple

- 22 The Missouri Series**
The third-longest series in Nebraska history, the Husker/Tiger matchups have resulted in some of the most controversial and unique games in recent years.

- 26 Question & Answer . . . Ron Brown**
In his eighth season as Nebraska's receivers coach, Ron Brown talked with us on topics ranging from his coaching future to his relationship with Husker Coach Tom Osborne.



10

DEPARTMENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 6 State of the Huskers | 16 Reviewing Kansas State |
| 8-9 Notebook | 20 Kansas State Statistics |
| 13 Hoops | 25 Recruiting |
| 14 Scouting Missouri | 28-29 Overview |



14



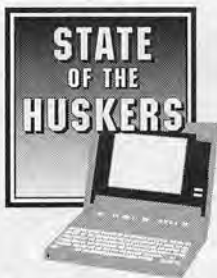
22



26

NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue (Oct. 29 — Vol. 14, No. 14) will review Missouri and preview the Colorado game. Recruiting will focus on secondary players.



The Uncertainty Is Over

Second blood clot will keep Tommie Frazier sidelined for the season

By MIKE BABCOCK

Dr. Deepak Gangahar, a cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon, ended the uncertainty during a news conference at Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln. It was one day after Tommie Frazier had been re-admitted following the formation of a blood clot — the second in less than two weeks — in his right leg.

The first blood clot, diagnosed after Nebraska's victory over the University of the Pacific, had been dissolved, creating optimism that Frazier might be able to play again

effects of anti-coagulant medication. The day before the second blood clot was found, there was speculation he might return for the Missouri game.

That possibility had a symbolic element. Frazier's first start as a Cornhusker came against Missouri, in Columbia two seasons ago as a freshman. He had responded by directing a 34-24 victory.

His return was a long shot. But at least there was some hope.

When Gangahar met with reporters three days before Nebraska's Big Eight opener against

Oklahoma State, however, the matter was settled. He said Frazier wouldn't play for three to six months, at which point some determination about his football future might be possible. "We physicians have only one goal, and that is Tommie's health," Gangahar said.

That, of course, was everyone's goal, from the beginning. Even the most zealous of Nebraska's fans weren't willing to jeopardize Frazier's health in order to win football games. But the full significance of the medical problem that arose so unexpectedly wasn't apparent until then. Blood clots with no readily identifiable causes are uncommon in healthy young athletes, according to Gangahar.

On Oct. 6, Gangahar proceeded with surgery that involved tying off a superficial vein in Frazier's right calf. Afterward, Nebraska's director of athletic medicine, Dr. Lonnie Albers, clarified that the complications, and not the surgery, will be what sidelines Frazier.

"It is not the surgical procedure, nor potential complications of the surgical approach that would prevent Frazier from playing this season," Albers said. "It is the reoccurrence of the clot and the need to be on blood thinners for a longer period of time which will keep Frazier from contact sports for what appears to be the rest of the season."

"The risk of playing contact sports while on blood thinners is posed by the difficulty of controlling bleeding in the brain if one would sustain a head injury. Generally, an injury due to cuts or external lacerations could be controlled, but internal bleeding or intra-cranial bleeding would be the greater risk."

In two dozen games, Frazier had established a reputation for playing with pain. Twice he was taken to the lockerroom because of an injured right shoulder in last season's 21-17 victory at Colorado. Yet he refused to stand and watch. Frazier's toughness was unquestioned.

The blood clot problem, however, is more dangerous than it is painful. It's not something to be tolerated or endured. Before any thought can be given to playing again, it must be resolved. Completely.

Although a distant second to Frazier's well-being, the implications of his loss to a team that went into this season among the favorites to win a national championship became a topic of discussion, not only in Nebraska but across the country. Up to and including Gangahar's pronouncement, Frazier's health was the subject of daily updates in the national media and on radio sports-talk programs.

Going into the season, Coach Tom Osborne emphasized that the one player his team could least afford to lose was Frazier, the perfect quarterback for the Cornhuskers' option offense. After his performance against West Virginia during a 31-0 victory in the Kickoff Classic, Frazier suddenly found himself in the upper tier of Heisman Trophy candidates. His was a household name. Without him, there would be a significant drop-off.

If Frazier's loss weren't sufficient to cause lament among the Nebraska faithful, his replacement's hospitalization after his first career start was. Brook Berringer suffered a partially collapsed lung, apparently as he scored one of his three touchdowns in the 42-32 victory against Wyoming.

See STATE page 24



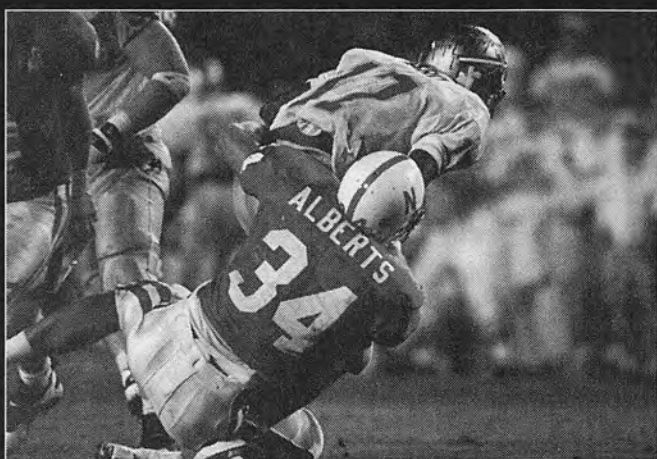
Nebraska will have to hunt for its first first national title under Tom Osborne without the services of Tommie Frazier.

this season.

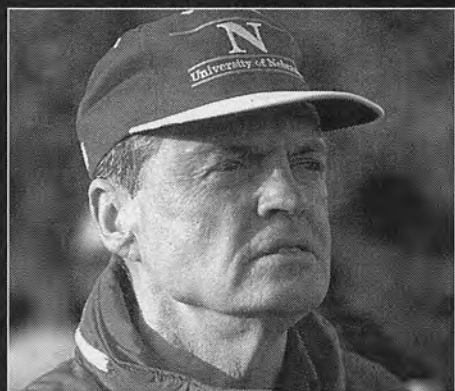
The junior quarterback had worked out some even without receiving doctor's clearance to participate in contact because of the



Husker Season Ticket Video



**It's Not Too Late
to Order The
1994 Season on
Video Tape!**



Order Husker Season Ticket Video 1994 and You Receive:

- Video of Entire Game Delivered Priority Mail
Immediately Following Each Game
- Commentary by KEAB's Kent Pavelka
- Exclusive Game Review & Opponent Preview with
Coach Osborne
- Only \$187

TO ORDER BY PHONE CALL 1-800-230-3831

or send your check or money order to: P.O. Box 5273,
Lincoln, NE 68505 (add appropriate sales tax)



NU NOTEBOOK

Takin' A Nose Dive

Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne isn't sure how his football team benefited from playing its five non-conference opponents. What he'd really like to know is what those foes received from playing the Huskers.

He has an idea: a lot of bumps and bruises.

"One factor that's a little hard to assess is how much playing us has taken out of a team," Osborne said. "I don't want to pat ourselves on the back, but sometimes after playing the style of football we play it's a little hard to come back physically the next week."

Osborne may be on to something. A look back at what the first three opponents did the week after playing Nebraska is revealing.

West Virginia beat Ball State,

16-14, following its loss to Nebraska, but the Mountaineers then dropped three straight games — to Rutgers, Maryland and Virginia Tech.

"Our game certainly disjointed them," Osborne said. "They seemed to have lost some confidence in what they're trying to do. But I think they can end up with a decent season."

Texas Tech lost two of its next three games after losing to Nebraska. The Red Raiders were defeated by Oklahoma, 17-11, beat Southern Methodist, 35-7, and lost to Texas A&M, 23-17. Both losses were against rated teams, though.

UCLA appears to have been hit hardest by its 49-21 loss to the Huskers. The Bruins lost to Pac 10-rival Washington State, 21-0, immediately following the Nebraska game, and then was blitzed by Washington, 37-10.

"I don't know for sure, but I think our game took a lot out of them," Osborne said.

So far, Pacific hasn't been affected by its whipping at Memorial Stadium. The Tigers had the next week off.

Of all the teams, Osborne thinks Wyoming will be least affected by losing to the Huskers. Wyoming lost, 42-32, to Nebraska, who didn't lead in the game until the second half.

"The more I looked at film, the less I was discouraged with our play and the more I was impressed with how they played," Osborne said.

Recruiting Trail

The Huskers have picked up two more verbal commitments from in-state football standouts.

Adam Julch (6-5, 300, 5.1) of Omaha (Burke), Neb., is an offensive lineman who doesn't see any reason not to go to Nebraska. "They have a great program, are ranked No. 1, have a great strength program and great coaches," Julch said. "Why not go to Nebraska?"

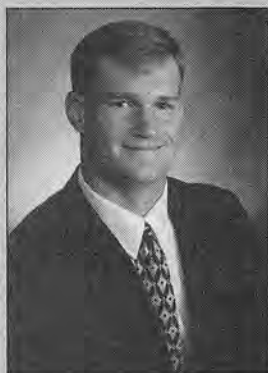
Chad Kelsey (6-6, 220, 4.6) of Auburn, Neb., is a Trev Alberts clone who has already said he will play at Nebraska. That gives the Huskers three verbals along with kicker Kris Brown of Southlake Carroll, Texas.

We Need A Remedy

The Nebraska football program has had a rough run on luck lately with regard to injuries — with an emphasis on quarterbacks. There was Tommie Frazier's blood clots, Brook Berringer's collapsed lung, Monte Christo's fractured thumb and the transfer of scholarship signal-callers John Elder and Ben Rutz.

Wahoo native Matt Turman has proved to have a resistance to the mysterious bugaboo that has ravaged the quarterback ranks so far. Student trainers have taken to laying odds on the possible catastrophes that might be in store for Turman. At the moment, being hit by lightning is the odds-on favorite.

Former quarterback and current coach Turner Gill has expressed apprehension about flying on small planes to recruiting stops on his schedule. He's not sure that he is immune to the calamity he has witnessed this season.



CHAD KELSEY:
A Trev Alberts clone has said yes to Nebraska

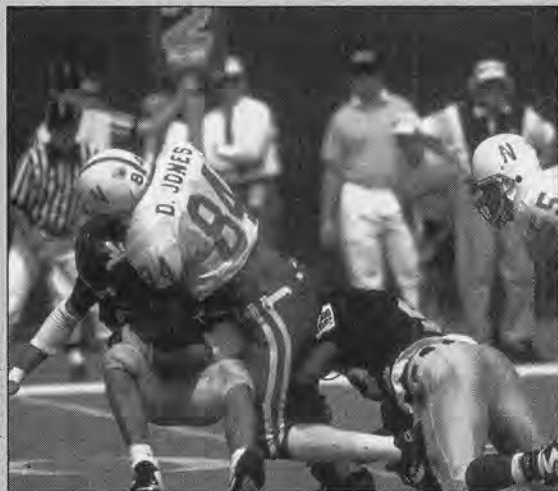


Photo by Chris Foyt



After Nebraska made short work of West Virginia (31-0), Texas Tech (42-16) and UCLA (49-21), things didn't improve for the three schools, as they combined for a 2-7 record through Week Four of the 1994 season.

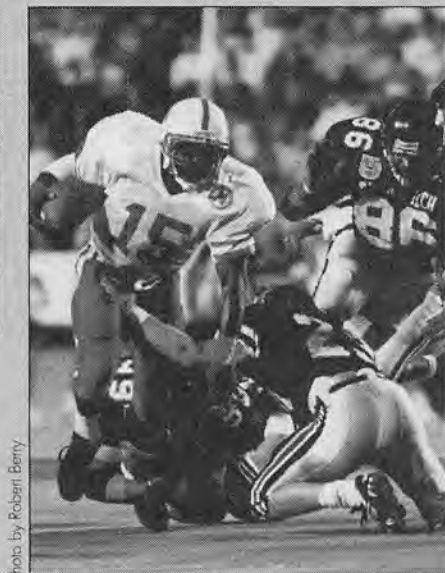
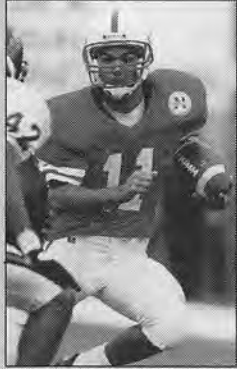


Photo by Robert Berry

Words Of Encouragement

At the beginning of Turman's walk-on career at Nebraska, he probably didn't think it was very likely that he would be called on to run the offense in a tight situation his sophomore season.



MATT TURMAN:
Hoping to avoid
quarterback pitfalls
suffered by starters

Well, fate has a strange way of arranging things, and Turman was called to run the first-team offense with the Huskers up 9-3 over talented Oklahoma State.

Turman and the team were surprised to learn at the end of halftime that Berringer had been taken to the hospital.

In an interview following the game, Turman said that he was anxious to get out on the field and hoped that the defense would send the Cowboys three-and-out on the opening pos-



FROM THE HEADPHONES

Imagine that you have a tap on Nebraska's coaching staff headphone lines from the bench area to the press box. Quit imagining; you've really got one. Here are a few quotes from the Pacific game:

"We've got players goin' in who haven't even practiced."

— Dan Young

"Adam, do you know enough names of the plays to run them?"

— Tom Osborne to Adam Kuchera, former equipment manager and now a scout team quarterback, prior to Adam's entrance

"There he is, The Turmanator."

— Turner Gill after a big play by Matt Turman

"Now we really have a quarterback controversy!"

— Frank Solich following Gill's exclamation

session after the kickoff.

Prior to the start of the second half, Gill told Turman to take a deep breath after he went out onto the field. Guard Brenden Stai looked at Turman and said, "You know you can do it."

Softballers Take Title

With two dramatic last-inning

victories against Kansas and Missouri, the Nebraska softball team won the Big Eight Classic fall tournament and improved to 15-1 in the fall season. It was NU's second tournament title of the fall.

Nebraska opens its spring season Feb. 17-19 at the Arlington Tournament in Grand Prairie, Texas. ■

A HUSKER TRADITION FOR 36 YEARS!

Barry's
BAR & GRILL
9th & Q, Lincoln, Neb.

Open 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.
Lunch specials 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Grill open 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Happy hours 4:30-6:30 p.m. M-F
Big party? Call us!
476-6511, or stop by 9th and Q

The closest food & fun to the stadium.

At 6-foot-2 and 230 pounds, Nebraska tight end Eric Alford might look too large to be a speed burner. "In my uniform, I look huge," he says.

But speed is probably his biggest asset.

"The reason I'm a pretty good receiver is because of my speed," Alford said. "Remember, last year I was a wingback, and I don't think defenses expect a tight end to move as fast as I do.

"I take off, and I'm at my top speed in three steps."

As a younger man, Alford, now a senior at Nebraska, used his coveted

speed to outrun the police in High Point, N.C. He makes no bones about it.

"I was wild," Alford said. "Nobody could tell me anything. And the cops could never catch me because I had all this speed."

Alford tells of the time he stole from a catering business and had to elude the authorities. And the time he and a friend quietly robbed a home while its occupants watched a movie on television. It was "Rocky III," Alford recalls.

You get the idea.

"I was a good thief. I could steal anything," he said.

He said it took a jolt to shake him from his days as a teen-age thug.

"I was about 13, and I was a thief, a real bad kid," he said. "I got tired of whippings at home for messing up, and I ran away with a friend."

After about two weeks, Alford says he returned home.

"Mom was cooking breakfast when I walked in the door. She said I wasn't smelling too good, and she had a bath ready for me. Everything felt pretty good. I was back home. I wasn't in trouble, and everything was cool.

"I took my bath, dried off and got dressed. Outside the bathroom door

Change Of Direction

No more running from
the police for Eric Alford,
who has found a better
use for his speed

Photos by Bob Berry

were two cops. There were two more outside the side door and two more outside the front door of the house. I was pretty good at escaping and they were ready. My mom had called them and she warned them they better bring extra help."

Alford says he spent the next month to month-and-a-half in a detention center in Greensboro, N.C. It was there that he began lifting weights, putting muscle on a frame that he would eventually use to get into college and escape a life that might have led to nothing but trouble.

"If not for athletics, I'd still be

where I was," he said.

His experience in the Greensboro detention center gave him a chance to think about his life, Alford says.

"Somehow, it struck me in that detention hall that I could change," he said. "I didn't have to steal and rob and get into trouble. Besides, I was scared by the whole thing."

Now, Alford plans to help youths who grow up in a world of poverty and crime. He is a family science major who will graduate in August, if the National Football League doesn't come calling. If it does, Alford will give pro football a shot and then complete his degree.

He says money he might make as a pro could help him build a shelter for troubled youths.

"You have to appeal to these kids more than the drug does," he said.

Alford grew up in tough conditions in High Point. The youngest of seven children, Alford speaks highly of his mother, Mary Alford. "She's the money-maker; she's the boss," he said.

Mary Alford has spent more than 20 years working in a factory that makes cushion chairs. She probably has also spent some time worrying about her four boys and three daughters.

The youngest was certainly a chore.

"I used to get whippings twice a day," Alford said.

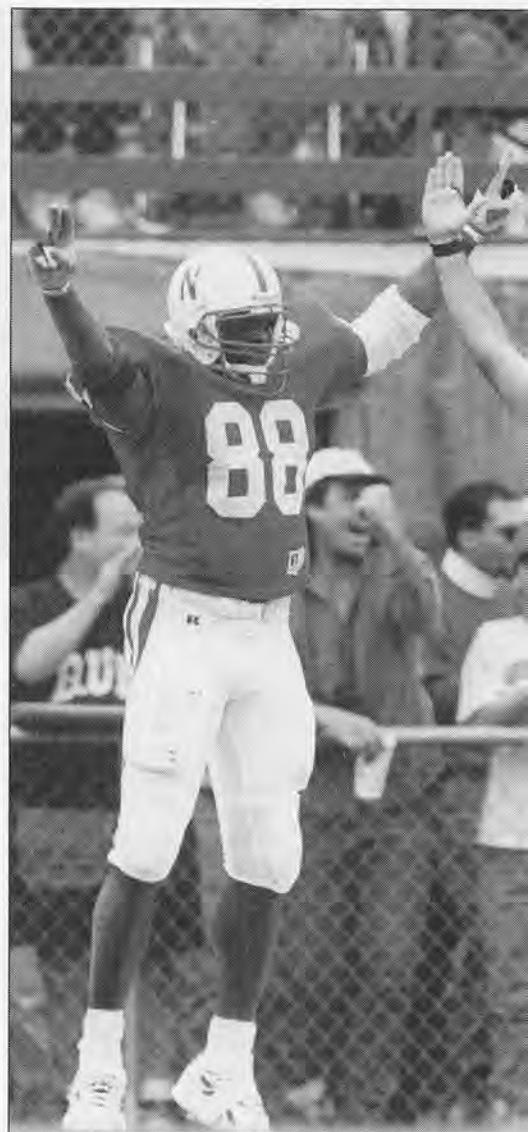
Now Alford is proving to be a chore for opposing defenders. His speed makes him the most dangerous receiver among the Husker tight ends. Matt Shaw, a 6-foot-3, 235-pound senior, and Mark Gilman, a 6-3, 240-pound junior, also see significant time at the position.

"Matt Shaw is the best blocker, I probably run the best routes, and Mark Gilman does both well," Alford said.

Alford said he "gets the job done" as a blocker.

He's better at finishing the job as a receiver. Two of his first three catches this season went for touchdowns. On one play during Nebraska's 49-21 win against UCLA Sept. 17 in Lincoln, he was almost abandoned by the defense until a safety closed to about five yards as Alford made his 23-yard TD catch, which opened the scoring that day.

"That's pretty exciting to hear that crowd (of some 75,000) roar like that early in the game," Alford said. "UCLA was a big game, but we honestly believe every game is big



Scoring has become a habit for Alford since switching from wingback to tight end

because one loss and the national championship is down the drain."

Alford missed the Huskers' hard-fought, 42-32 victory against Wyoming because the coaching staff gave him a one-game suspension for skipping classes. He listened to the game on radio at home but became frustrated as Nebraska struggled and smashed the radio.

"I thought we were 20 to 25 points better than Wyoming," he said. "I wanted to be there."

His aversion to missing games kept him from redshirting in 1993 after he transferred to Nebraska from Garden City (Kan.) Community College. "I've been playing all these years. I couldn't see myself not playing," he said.

As a wingback, he finished the 1993 season with three receptions for 27 yards and no touchdowns. He caught two passes for 17 yards in the



opener against North Texas and played in every game except against Colorado.

He made the switch to tight end during spring ball to help fill the void left by Gerald Armstrong and Trumane Bell, who both completed their eligibility.

At Garden City, he was named an honorable mention All-American by the Junior College Gridwire and was named to the SuperPrep 100 list of standouts. He played split end, tight end, running back, defensive back and was a return specialist. In 1992 he caught 27 passes for 476 yards and seven TDs, carried the ball 46 times for 329 yards and four TDs, and averaged 12 yards per punt return and 27 yards per kickoff return.

In addition, he was a starter in the secondary, helping lead Garden City and Coach Jeff Leiker to a 9-3 record and a conference title. Alford was named the team's most valuable player.

He also averaged 12 points per game for Garden City's basketball team. He averaged 30 points and 10 rebounds at Central High School in

"I came to hate Lincoln almost as much as I hated Garden City. Actually, I hated pretty much everything. I was just another one of those bad attitudes."

— Tight End Eric Alford



High Point. He insists he could play basketball at Nebraska as a shooting guard. "I do have the jumper to do it," he said.

Coming out of Garden City, he said he also considered attending Maryland, Memphis State, Mississippi State and Idaho State. He chose Nebraska because its coaches were honest and he thought it offered the best chance for him to earn a degree.

He didn't like Lincoln at first.

"I came to hate Lincoln almost as much as I hated Garden City," he said. "Actually, I hated pretty much everything. It was just another one of those bad attitudes. I chose not to redshirt, but I wasn't playing much here and was in an awful mood."

That all changed this past summer, when he worked hard in the weight room and the classroom.

And now?

"It feels so good to be here," he said. ■

Auto, Home, Health, Life. If Only We Could Insure A Husker National Championship, Too.

American Family Insurance Agents throughout Nebraska salute the Cornhuskers and their dedication to excellence. Call the agent nearest you for all of your insurance needs.



American Family Insurance Group, Home Office — Madison, Wisconsin 53783

Erick Strickland spent about two weeks preparing for his third professional baseball season, in training camp with the Florida Marlins' minor league players. And "I was doing all right," he said recently.

But it was then that he decided the time had come to put his baseball career on hold. His dad had told him that he would know in his heart when the time came. And he knew.

The Marlins, who drafted him out of Bellevue, Neb., West High School, made his decision easier than he thought it would be. They put him on their inactive list and "told me to go ahead and finish (playing college basketball), that I'd always be welcome back," Strickland said. "Basically, they were saying: 'See how it goes.'"

Whether or not he'll eventually return to baseball, "I can't say. I don't know what the outcome will be."

The Marlins' loss, temporary or permanent, is the Nebraska basketball team's gain. Cornhusker fans will see a much more rested and relaxed Strickland when this season begins.

The demands of competing in two sports, at the professional and major college levels, are considerable, even for a well-conditioned athlete who won't celebrate his 21st birthday until November. And they took a noticeable toll on Strickland during the previous two years as a Cornhusker.

After playing 30 basketball games and attending to his schoolwork for two semesters, Strickland needed a rest, not a summer of bus rides and baseball games in the low minors. "Physically, I was all right," he said. "Mentally, I was drained."

So when the Marlins put him on the inactive list, "basically, I took some time off, had a lot of R & R." By the time the fall semester of his junior year began, "I was ready to get back to school," Strickland said.

He is even more eager for the basketball season to begin. He and fellow juniors Jaron Boone and Terrance Badgett will form the nucleus of a team that could challenge for the Big Eight regular-season championship, according to Strickland.

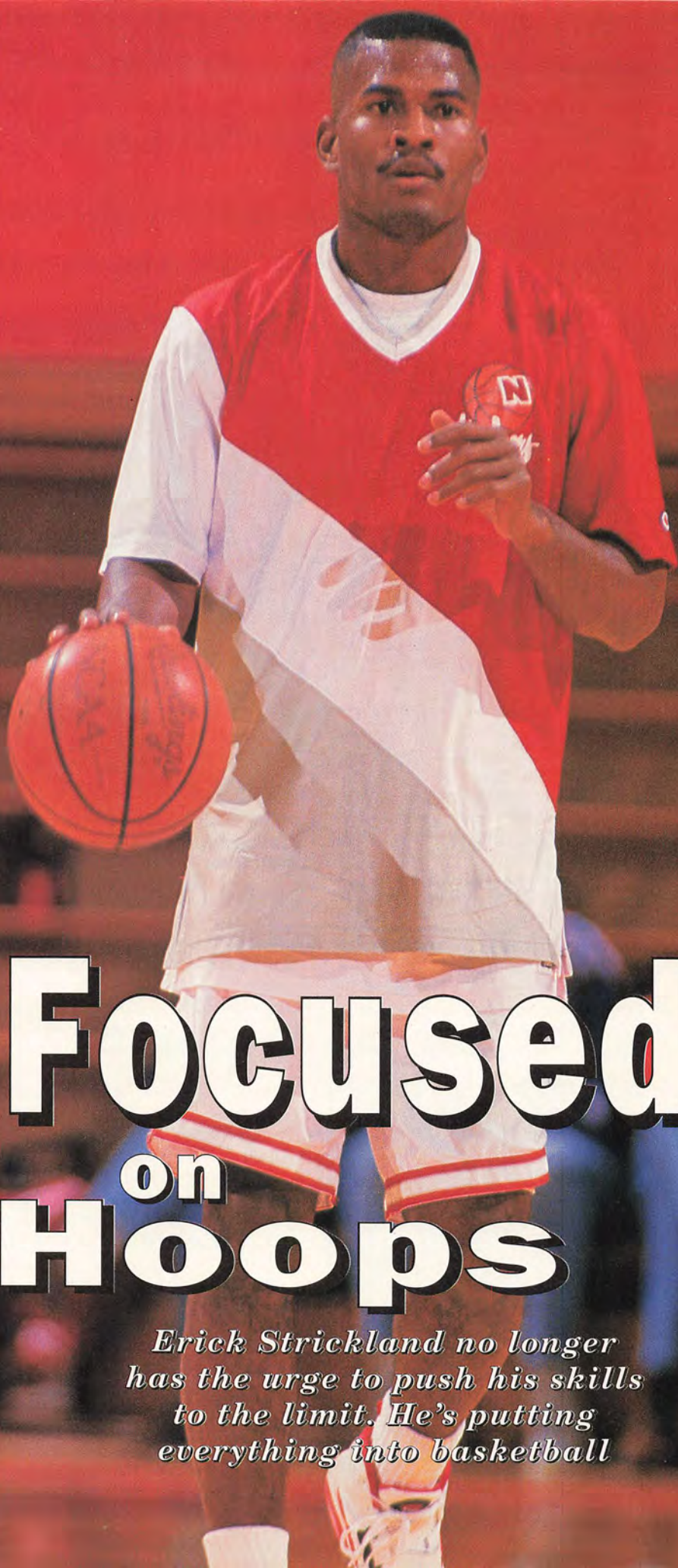
See HOOPS page 21

HOOPS



Focused on Hoops

Erick Strickland no longer has the urge to push his skills to the limit. He's putting everything into basketball





Nebraska vs. Missouri

Tigers sport new offense and fresh confidence

October 22, 1994 • 1 p.m. (CDT) • Faurot Field • Columbia, Mo.

The past two years under Coach Bob Stull, Missouri was known as a passing school. The Tigers were among the best in the Big Eight at putting the ball in the air.

This season under first-year Coach Larry Smith, the Tigers scrapped the high-flying attack for a smash-mouth football attitude. Jeff Handy, who averaged 240 and 190 yards per game the last two seasons, respectively, is throwing for 165 yards per contest this year. The evolution to a ground-controlled game is happening at Missouri.

Nebraska will get its first look at the Smith-led Tigers on Oct. 22 at Faurot Field in Columbia, Mo.

"I was born and raised on single-wing football," Smith said. "That is not fancy stuff. You just line up and knock the tar out of the guy over you. That's my philosophy. We're going to go into every game to do one thing first, and that's to out-hit the other guy."

The ploy to have a balanced attack hasn't worked yet for Smith, who coached at Southern California University from 1987-1992 before coming to Missouri.

In fact, the Tigers are last in the Big Eight in rushing offense — averaging a paltry 84 yards per game — last in scoring offense and seventh in



Defensively, the Tigers revolve around All-Big Eight outside linebacker Darryl Major.

total offense.

The low output running the ball has shown up in Missouri's record. The Tigers lost four of their first six games, defeating only winless Houston, 16-0, in Houston to snap a 17-game road losing streak and struggling Oklahoma State, 24-15 last week.

Smith said the Tigers are struggling in the transformation from a finesse team to a power team. "That's part of our problem that we are going through offensively. The style of offense that we run, you've got to have all 11 players thinking, doing and believing in the same type of thing."

Without tailback Joe Freeman, a 5-foot-10, 180 pound senior, the Tigers' running attack wouldn't be alive. Of the 420 yards Missouri has gained running the ball through five games this season, Freeman has picked up 309. He's averaging 61.8 yards per game.

The fullback position, although deep, hasn't been effective this year.

With Michale Washington sus-

pended, Smith is going with two youngsters at the position — sophomore Greg Smith and freshman Ron Janes.

With the running game struggling, Smith probably is glad Handy is still around. The all-time Missouri passing leader after breaking Phil Bradley's record earlier this season, Handy threw for 824 yards in five games, completing 58.1 percent of his attempts.

"He's a guy who can do the things we're asking him to do," Smith said. "He can throw from the pocket around to our different launch points. He's got good vision, can see the field, can find his receivers and has good strength in his arm."

When Handy does go to the air, his favorite target is wide receiver Brian Sallee. The 6-3 senior, who averages 3.4 receptions per game, is picking up nearly 10 yards each catch.

The tight end also plays an important role for Missouri. Lamont Frazier, who also plays for the Tiger basketball team, and Bill Lingerfelt combined for 29 catches through five games.

Up front, the Tigers are big, especially on the right side with 320-pound guard Rafe Parsons and 305-

1994 MISSOURI FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record — 2-4

Sept. 3	Tulsa	L, 20-17
Sept. 10	@ Illinois	L, 42-0
Sept. 17	@ Houston	W, 16-0
Oct. 1	W. Virginia	L, 34-10
Oct. 8	Colorado	L, 38-23
Oct. 15	@ Okla. St.	W, 24-15
Oct. 22	Nebraska	1 p.m.
Oct. 29	@ Iowa St.	1 p.m.
Nov. 5	@ Oklahoma	1 p.m.
Nov. 12	Kansas St.	1 p.m.
Nov. 19	Kansas	1 p.m.
Nov. 26	@ Hawaii	11 p.m.

PRESS PICKS



pound tackle Chris Buck. The left side is anchored by a pair of 290-pounders, tackle Trey O'Neil and guard Mike Morris. Center Russ Appel, at 246 pounds, is the midget of the group.

Defensively, the Tigers revolve around end Darryl Major and inside linebacker Travis McDonald.

"I don't know if you'll find two better-balanced linebackers, in the country," Smith said. "I've coached a lot of very fine linebackers and I think both of them are very good."

But two isn't enough on defense. The Tigers are last in the league in passing defense and total defense, yielding an average of 438.6 yards per game.

The Tigers' line is led by guard Steve Martin, tackle Damon Simon and nose tackle Matt Murray. All three are returning starters.

Chris Singletary and Darryl Chatman are the other two starting linebackers.

Missouri has had some problems

in the secondary, giving up seven touchdowns and picking off just two passes. Bo Adams and Demontie Cross start at the safety positions and Clayton Baker and Kevin McIntosh are the first-line cornerbacks.

Kyle Pooler, who handles most of the kicking chores, is averaging 41.3 yards per punt.

The Tigers opened Big Eight play with a 38-23 loss to Colorado. The only blowout Missouri has been involved in was a 42-0 whipping at the hands of Illinois.

"I think they care, they want to be successful, but I think there are a few of them deep down, that the minute something goes wrong, boom, they click back," Smith said. "Their eyes go down to the floor, their head drops and you're in trouble."

Missouri hasn't beaten the Cornhuskers since 1978. The last time the Tigers won in Columbia was 1973, Tom Osborne's first season as head coach at Nebraska. ■

• **Scott Byers**, Nebraska City News-Press: So far, Missouri, even

under their new head coach, has not been able to play physically the way they need to to win. Nebraska's sheer size and firepower will enable them to dominate on both sides of the line of scrimmage. **Nebraska 45, Missouri 10.**

• **Steve Bazis**, KRNU Radio, Lincoln: Since Nebraska is still questionable at quarterback, Lawrence Phillips will probably have another career game. Running behind a dominating line, he should be good for about 300 yards. The defense should dominate, as well. Everyone should play in this one for the Huskers.

Nebraska 56, Missouri 7.

• **Matt Hoffart**, Sidney Telegraph: It's obvious by the way Missouri has played that they're really down this year. If Nebraska is focused they shouldn't have a problem. By this time, the Huskers should have their quarterback situation settled and the offense running more smoothly. Play on defense should continue to be improved. **Nebraska 56, Missouri 7.**

• **Ed Littler**, KHAS TV, Hastings: Of course, a lot depends on the quarterback slot, but even so Nebraska shouldn't have any trouble running the ball. Possibly 400 yards rushing, with Lawrence Phillips having a big day. The Husker defense should also dominate in this one. **Nebraska 38, Missouri 21.**

• **Chris Fowler**, ESPN: Missouri is slowly improving, but much too slowly to cope with the Huskers. The quarterback health at Nebraska remains a concern. **Nebraska 41, Missouri 7.**

HUSKER 2-DEEP OFFENSE

SE	7	Reggie Baul	5-8	170	Jr
	5	Brendan Holbein	5-9	180	So
LT	56	Rob Zatechka	6-5	315	Sr
	61	Brady Caskey	6-4	290	Sr
LG	76	Joel Wilks	6-3	280	Sr
	69	Steve Ott	6-4	275	Jr
C	54	Aaron Graham	6-3	280	Jr
	51	Bill Humphrey	6-2	265	Sr
RG	66	Brenden Stai	6-4	300	Sr
	65	Bryan Pruitt	6-1	255	Jr
RT	72	Zach Wiegert	6-5	300	Sr
	61	Brady Caskey	6-4	290	Sr
TE	85	Matt Shaw	6-3	235	Sr
	88	Eric Alford	6-2	225	Sr
QB	*18	Brook Berringer	6-4	210	Jr
	11	Matt Turman	5-11	165	So
FB	40	Cory Schlesinger	6-0	230	Sr
	22	Jeff Makovicka	5-10	210	Jr
IB	1	Lawrence Phillips	6-0	220	So
	21	Damon Benning	5-11	205	So
WB	27	Abdul Muhammad	5-9	160	Sr
	33	Clester Johnson	5-11	210	Jr
PK	12	Tom Sieler	6-5	205	Sr

DEFENSE

DT	55	Christian Peter	6-2	285	Jr
	74	Scott Saltsman	6-2	255	So
DT	99	Terry Connealy	6-5	275	Sr
	57	Jason Pesterfield	6-3	260	Sr
LOLB	86	Dwayne Harris	6-2	225	Sr
	98	Grant Wistrom	6-5	230	Fr
ROLB	84	Donta Jones	6-2	220	Sr
	93	Jared Tomich	6-2	250	So
SAM	4	Troy Dumas	6-4	220	Sr
	45	Clint Brown	6-1	215	Sr
MLB	46	Doug Colman	6-3	240	Jr
	41	Phil Ellis	6-2	225	Jr
WLB	32	Ed Stewart	6-1	215	Sr
	91	Ryan Terwilliger	6-5	220	So
LCB	14	Barron Miles	5-8	165	Sr
	37	Darren Schmadeke	5-8	180	Jr
RCB	8	Tyrone Williams	6-0	185	Jr
	2	Leslie Dennis	5-8	165	Fr
ROV	29	Kareem Moss	5-10	190	Sr
	#5	Octavious McFarlin	6-0	180	Fr
FS	9	Tony Veland	6-2	200	Jr
	16	Eric Stokes	5-11	175	So
P	6	Darin Erstad	6-2	195	So

TIGER 2-DEEP OFFENSE

XWR	7	Brian Sallee	6-3	195	Sr
	82	Lou Shepherd	6-0	197	So
LT	75	Trey O'Neil	6-6	290	Sr
	61	Travis Biebel	6-4	249	Fr
LG	62	Mike Morris	6-3	290	Fr
	77	Matt Dowil	6-6	272	Jr
C	50	Russ Apel	6-3	246	So
	65	Chris Barrows	6-4	280	Jr
RG	74	Rafe Parsons	6-5	320	Sr
	65	Chris Barrows	6-4	280	Jr
RT	71	Chris Buck	6-6	305	Jr
	78	Tim Keith	6-8	301	Jr
TE	85	Bill Lingerfelt	6-4	240	So
	88	Lamont Frazier	6-4	237	Sr
QB	11	Jeff Handy	6-3	202	Sr
	13	Brandon Corso	6-2	195	So
TB	1	Joe Freeman	5-10	180	Sr
	27	Brock Olivo	6-1	185	Fr
FB	24	Greg Smith	6-0	211	So
	34	Ron Jones	6-3	234	Fr
ZWR	2	Rahsetnu Jenkins	6-2	170	So
	80	Frank Jones	5-11	177	Jr
PK	24	Greg Smith	6-0	211	So

DEFENSE

BAN	47	Chris Singletary	6-2	205	Sr
	28	Kay Blake	6-3	218	Jr
G	98	Steve Martin	6-5	284	Jr
	91	Pat Ivey	6-4	241	Jr
NG	87	Matt Murray	6-5	284	Sr
	97	Donnell Jones	6-4	251	Fr
T	92	Damon Simon	6-5	250	Sr
	46	John Safley	6-3	243	Jr
E	55	Darryl Major	6-2	235	Sr
	94	Marc Pedrotti	6-4	225	Sr
SAM	43	Darryl Chatman	6-1	226	So
	56	Shawn Sundall	6-2	220	Fr
WILL	39	Travis McDonald	6-2	225	Sr
	45	Joe Love	6-2	199	So
SS	4	Bo Adams	6-0	201	Jr
	21	Andre White	6-1	194	Sr
CB	15	Kevin McIntosh	6-0	172	Sr
	10	Montana Waggoner	5-11	186	Sr
FS	9	Demontie Cross	6-4	202	So
	40	Jerome Madison	6-0	183	Sr
HB	26	Clayton Baker	5-10	174	So
	3	Derrick Miller	5-11	171	So
P	19	Kyle Pooler	6-0	193	Sr

Depth charts were compiled October 16. # = duplicate number * = injured, but probable for game

Off-Balance Wildcats Come Up Short, 17-6

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Kansas State's strategy was sound: Isolate its fast receivers on Nebraska linebackers Ed Stewart and Troy Dumas.

In theory, if the Wildcats could accomplish that, Chad May, their quarterback, "should light up the scoreboard," said George Darlington, the Cornhuskers' secondary coach.

After all, May had exploited Nebraska's defense a year ago, passing for a Big Eight single-game record 489 yards. The theory was sound.

But, as the saying goes, even the best-laid plans can go awry, which is what happened in the Cornhuskers' 17-6 victory against Kansas State at KSU Stadium before 42,817 fans.

This day of drizzle and gray should have belonged to the Wildcats, had the theory proved right. A quarter century of frustration was to end in a shower of passes and points.

For the first time since 1968, Kansas State was going to win against Nebraska, the Wildcat faithful thought, and a regional television audience would be watching on ABC.

What couldn't be factored in, however, was the human element and the belief, expressed by Stewart, that "K-State is still K-State."

Kansas State went into the game averaging 347.5 yards and 29.3 points, largely on the strong right arm of May, among the best passers this side of the National Football League.

But despite completing 22-of-48 passes for 249 yards, May beat the Cornhuskers only once, teaming with Mitch Running on a 29-yard touchdown pass five seconds into the second quarter. And Darlington accepted the responsibility for that.

"Except for a stupid call on my part, we might have shut them out," Darlington said. "It was just poor coaching, not the kids' fault."

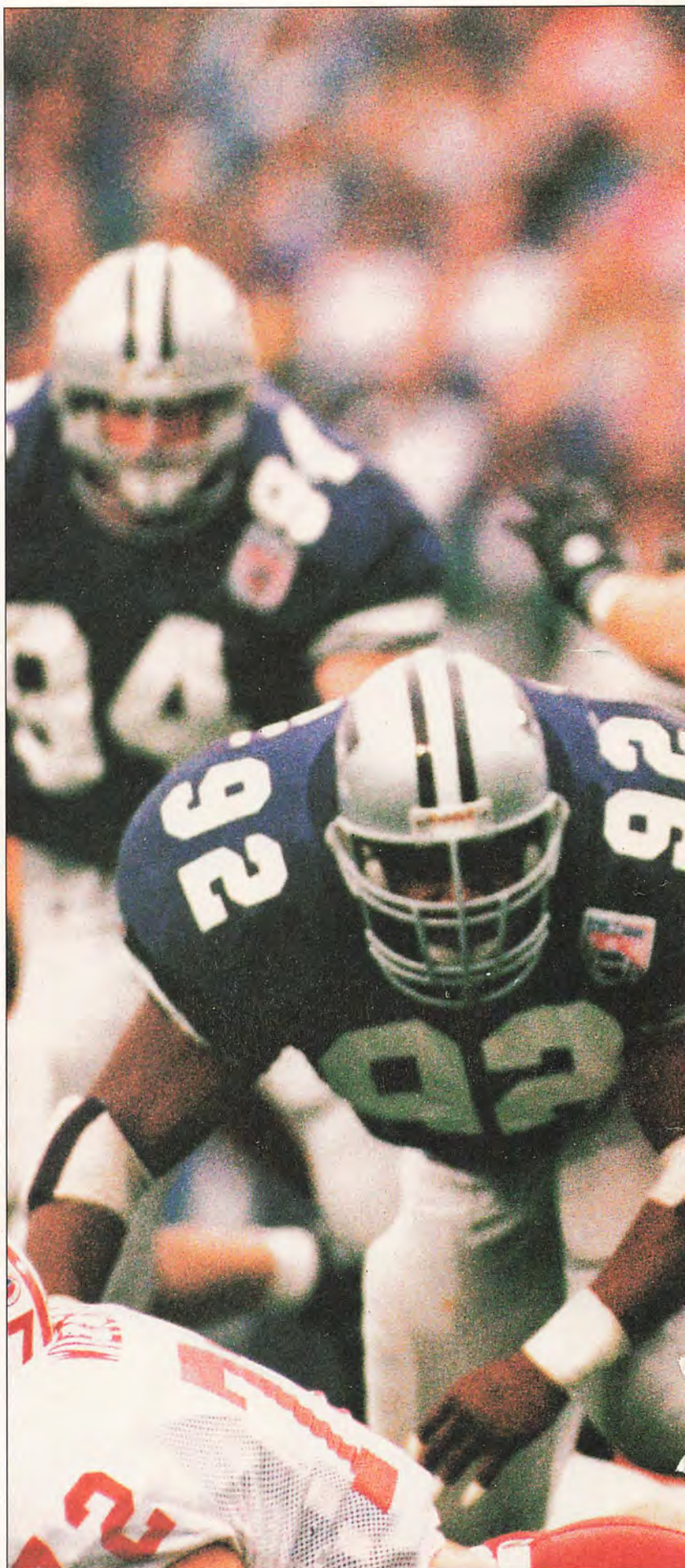
Darlington had nothing but praise for a Nebraska defense that has been unjustly maligned. The attitude seems to be "there has been no time in the history of the school when we've played good pass defense," he said.

"But we've got people (on defense) who can

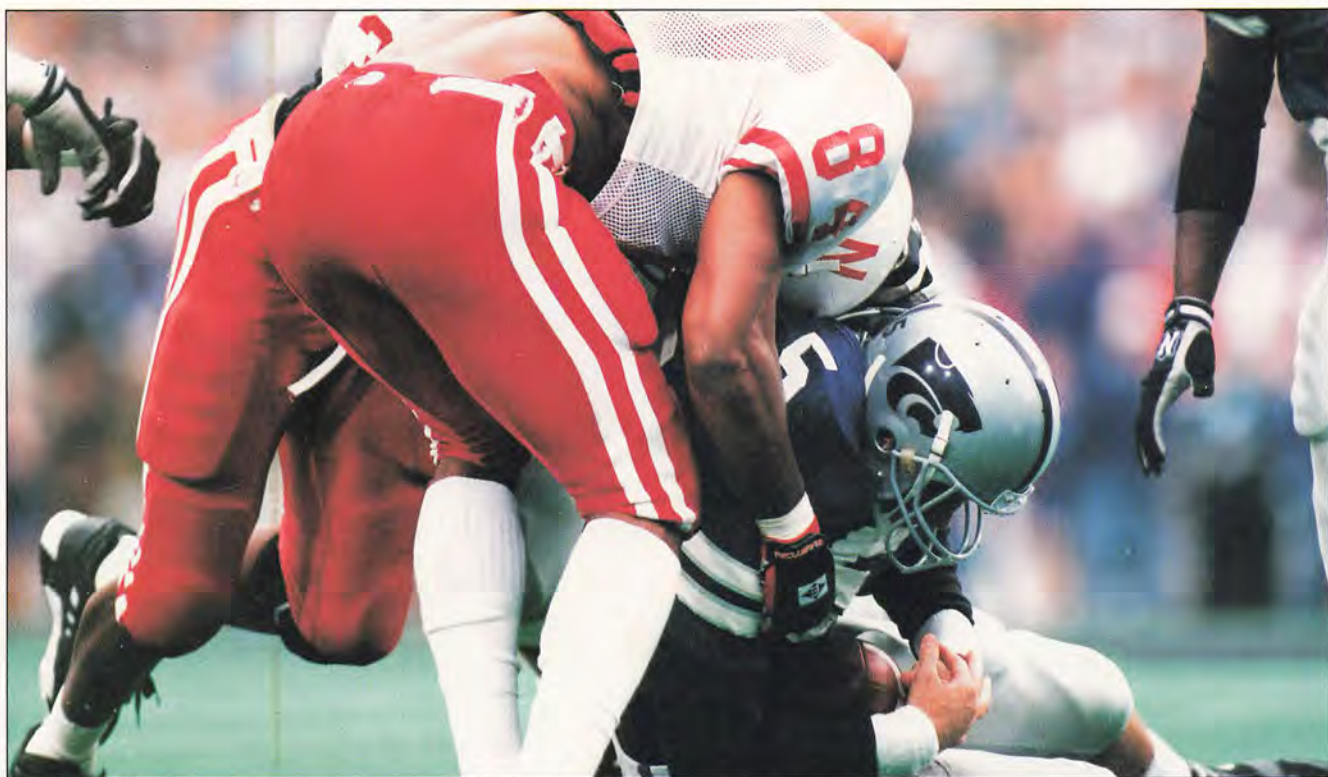
Lawrence Phillips once again came to the aid of a Husker offense which has yet to establish a potent air attack.

Kansas State game photos by Jeff Taylor

16 OCTOBER 22, 1994







play with anybody."

Charlie McBride, the Cornhusker defensive coordinator, said the effort against Kansas State was as good as any he's seen at Nebraska.

"If you had said we would hold Kansas State to six points, I don't think I would have believed you," he said, shaking his head.

In simple terms, the Cornhuskers' defensive plan was "to knock him (May) off his game plan," tackle Christian Peter said.

To that end, Nebraska showed blitz a lot, even when it wasn't blitzing, and mixed up coverages in the secondary. The Cornhuskers played zone. They played man-to-man. And they played combinations of zone and man. Their intention was to keep May and his receivers off-balance.

Darlington said he watched May throwing to receivers running fade routes during pre-game drills and wondered: "How in the heck we were going to stop them."

Nebraska mounted its best pass rush of the season, Darlington said, from the get-go. On the Wildcats' third play from scrimmage, Grant Wistrom, the Cornhuskers' freshman outside linebacker, sacked May for an 8-yard loss. The Cornhuskers would get to him five more times.

Behind a line that averages 296 pounds per man in its interior, May had been sacked only seven times total in the first four games.

"The tone was set on the first

series," Wistrom said. "The defense was on him the whole game."

"He felt the heat," said Peter, who wrapped up the performance in appropriate fashion by sacking May on the final play of the game.

Kansas State's problems on offense were compounded by an inability to run the ball. The Wildcats finished with a net of minus-7 rushing yards.

"Maybe we haven't given our running game a fair chance, especially today," Coach Bill Snyder said.

"I would like to get more yards from our rushing attack, and we'd like to have more balance. But it just hasn't been working for us."

In contrast, the running game was Nebraska's salvation. With Matt Turman, a sophomore walk-on, getting his first start at quarterback, the Cornhuskers kept their offense basic, wearing down Kansas State's defense with a constant pounding.

I-back Lawrence Phillips rushed for 117 yards and the first touchdown, and fullback Jeff Makovicka scored the second on a 15-yard run early in the fourth quarter. Add to the touchdowns a pair of extra-point kicks and a 24-yard field goal by Darin Erstad, and Nebraska had plenty of points.

The Cornhuskers' 7-6 lead at half-time was enough, in fact. "We knew they weren't going to score on us again," Peter said.

Even though the Wildcats had more offensive snaps through the

Chad May had trouble standing up to the Huskers' pass rush which sacked him six times for 53 yards in losses.

first three quarters, "we weren't dominating because we couldn't get the doggone ball off our end of the field," said Snyder. "We'd get a little movement in our offense and then shoot ourselves in the foot. We had some mistakes, but I'm not making excuses. Nebraska was a better football team today."

Stewart and Dumas had a lot to do with that. "Eddie (Stewart) played a great game," Darlington said.

So did Dumas, who picked off a May pass to snap a Big Eight single-season record for consecutive passes without an interception. May's streak had reached 148 this season, and 186 over the last two seasons. Dumas returned the ball 54 yards.

"I can't say enough about Eddie Stewart and Troy Dumas," said Darlington. He also couldn't say enough about a defensive scheme installed specifically for Kansas State. In fact, he wouldn't say anything about it.

The wet weather, along with a modest wind, probably worked to Nebraska's advantage, according to Darlington. "I think a passing team would like to have it nice and sunny," he said.

Stewart credited the coaches more than the weather for the defensive success. "I think our coaches did an

excellent job of putting together a package. We gave them (the Wildcats) a lot of different looks and kept pressure on them at the line. I don't think they knew exactly what defense we were playing most of the time."

Time and again, cornerback Barron Miles came up with solid defensive plays in man-to-man pass coverage. "We played a gang of man-to-man today," he said. "We gave them a bunch of different looks and coverages. We would look like we were in a blitz and then drop into a zone."

Though complaining that one Cornhusker defender had intentionally poked him in the eye, May generally credited Nebraska's defensive effort.

"They tried to get pressure on me, and some guys came untouched," he said. "When they're pushing up field and guys are in your face, it's kind of hard to throw. Sometimes, I couldn't see where I was throwing the ball."

"I don't want to make excuses or anything, but there was a few times where the ball was slipping out of my hand. I had some guys open a few times, but the ball slipped out of my hand. They have a very good pass rush, and they did what they had to do."

On a day when No. 1-ranked Florida was upset by Auburn, Nebraska survived its biggest test.

"Until they get beat, they should be right up there, and they deserve it," Snyder said.

That assessment included the defense. On the Friday night before the game, "I heard somebody say the only problem with our defense is the secondary," McBride said. "Well, not today."

McBride said he also had received a letter, with a Nebraska postmark no less, wishing him luck in the Copper Bowl.

"They had already put us in the Copper Bowl," Cornhusker outside linebacker Donta Jones said. "They were saying in the newspapers we were in their (Kansas State) way to the Orange Bowl."

That was accurate enough. And Nebraska refused to step out of the way. ■

Kansas State's problems on offense were compounded by an inability to run the ball. Although tailback J.J. Smith (22) racked up 29 yards, KSU finished with a net of minus-7 rushing yards.



STATISTICS VS. KANSAS ST.

OCTOBER 15, 1994

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Nebraska	7	0	0	10	— 17
Kansas St.	0	6	0	0	— 6

TEAM STATS

	KSU	NU
First Downs	17	16
Rushing	5	13
Passing	10	2
Penalty	2	1
Rushing Attempts	23	50
Yards Gained Rushing	55	226
Yards Lost Rushing	62	16
Net yards rushing	-7	210
Net yards passing	249	52
Passes attempted	48	11
Passes completed	22	4
Had intercepted	1	0
Total plays	71	61
Total net yards	242	262
Avg. gain per play	3.4	4.3
Fumbles-lost	2-0	2-1
Penalties-yards	12-102	9-70
Punts-yards	8-288	7-264
Avg. per punt	36.0	37.3
Possession time	28:34	31:26
Third Down Efficiency	6-17	3-12

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

NEBRASKA				
Tackles				
Player	Solo	Asst.	Sacks	Int.
Stewart	3	6	1	0
Jones	3	4	1	0
Peter, C.	3	3	1	0
Dumas	3	3	0	1
Williams	3	1	0	0
Harris	1	2	0	0
Connealy	1	2	1	0
Miles	2	1	0	0
Ellis	2	1	0	0
Stokes	1	2	0	0
Colman	1	1	0	0
Moss	1	1	0	0
Pesterfield	1	1	0	0
Wistrom	2	0	2	0
Veland	1	0	0	0
Tomich	1	0	0	0

KANSAS STATE

Tackles				
Player	Solo	Asst.	Sacks	Int.
Colston	4	8	0	0
Marlowe	3	13	0	0
Fogle	0	8	0	0

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING

NEBRASKA

Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Phillips	31	117	3.7	17	1
Makovicka	7	56	8.0	15	1
Schlesinger	3	24	8.0	10	0
Turman	4	10	4.0	4	0
Berringer	2	5	2.5	9	0
Childs	2	0	0.0	1	0
Benning	1	-2	-2.0	0	0

KANSAS STATE

Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Smith	14	29	2.0	10	0
May	9	-36	-4.0	13	0

PASSING

NEBRASKA

Player	Att./Comp.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Berringer	2/7	0	37	0
Turman	2/4	0	15	0

KANSAS STATE

Player	Att./Comp.	Int.	Yds.	TD
May	22/48	1	249	1

RECEIVING

NEBRASKA

Player	No.	Yds.	Long	TD
Muhammad	1	34	34	0
Phillips	2	15	14	0
Childs	1	3	3	0

KANSAS STATE

Player	No.	Yds.	Long	TD
Running	5	79	29	1
Lockett	5	78	32	0
Brown, R.	3	44	22	0
Smith, J.	6	29	16	0
Schwieger	3	19	8	0

FIELD GOALS

NEBRASKA

Player	Att.	Comp.	Long
Erstad	2	1	24

KANSAS STATE

Player	Att.	Comp.	Long
Gramatica	1	0	0

1994 SEASON STATS

(7 GAMES)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING

Name	G	Att.	Yds.	YPG	Tds.
Phillips	7	162	1,123	187.2	11
Childs	7	42	285	40.7	4
Schlesinger	7	36	272	38.9	2
Benning	7	44	266	38.0	2
Frazier	4	33	248	62.0	6
Makovicka	7	32	246	35.1	1
Berringer	7	30	146	20.9	5
Schuster	4	7	59	14.8	0

PASSING

Name	G	C-A-I	Pct.	Yds.	Tds.
Frazier	4	19-44-2	.431	273	4
Berringer	7	36-62-2	.580	375	3
Turman	6	6-12-0	.500	80	0

RECEIVING

Name	G	No.	Yds.	YPC	YPG	Tds.
Baul	6	9	97	10.7	16.2	1
Phillips	7	10	93	9.3	13.3	0
Holbein	6	6	46	7.6	7.6	1
Alford	4	4	116	29.0	29.0	3
Muhammad	7	12	173	14.4	24.7	1

DEFENSE

Name	G	UT	AT	TT	Int.	Sacks
Stewart	7	18	32	50	0	1
Moss	7	18	13	31	1	1
Peter, C.	7	12	17	29	0	5.5
Dumas	7	12	13	25	1	0
Ellis	7	10	14	24	0	0
Colman	7	9	14	23	0	1
Harris	7	8	13	21	0	2
Williams, T.	6	17	3	20	2	0
Jones	7	9	10	19	0	2
Stokes	7	5	13	18	0	0
Wistrom	7	7	12	17	0	3.5
Miles	7	12	3	15	3	0
Tomich	7	9	4	13	0	1
Connealy	7	4	9	13	0	2.5
Veland	7	8	4	12	2	0
Brown	6	7	4	11	0	0
Terwilliger	6	7	3	10	0	2
Hesse	7	6	3	9	0	0
Dennis	6	6	2	8	1	0
Minter	2	3	4	7	0	0

TEAM STATISTICS

Total Offensive Yards	3,524	1,932			
Net Rushing Yards	2,790	437			
Passing Yards	734	1,495			
Scoring	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	TOT
NU	57	78	72	66	283
Opp	17	23	30	29	99

1994 NEBRASKA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record — 7-0

Aug. 28	vs. W. Virginia	W, 31-0
Sept. 8	@ Texas Tech	W, 42-16
Sept. 17	UCLA	W, 49-21
Sept. 24	Pacific	W, 70-21
Oct. 1	Wyoming	W, 42-32
Oct. 8	Oklahoma St.	W, 32-3
Oct. 15	@ Kansas St.	W, 17-6
Oct. 22	@ Missouri	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 29	Colorado	TBA
Nov. 5	Kansas	1:00 p.m.
Nov. 12	@ Iowa St.	1:00 p.m.
Nov. 25	@ Oklahoma	1:30 p.m.

HOOPS

From page 13

Last season, they played key roles on a team that won the conference tournament, a first in Cornhusker history. "We accomplished something no one else has," he said. "We put the program on another level. Now, we're trying to go elsewhere with it."

Nebraska was last at that level in 1949 and 1950, when teams coached by Harry Good tied for the Big Seven championship in back-to-back seasons. Before that, the Cornhuskers of W. H. Browne tied Kansas for the Big Six title in 1937. And before that, Nebraska won or shared three conference championships in the early 1900s.

It's been a long time, but "we've got high goals," said Strickland. "We know what's expected, what we've got to do. We just have to apply ourselves."

Despite four consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, and because it has failed to advance beyond the first game each time, Nebraska probably won't get much preseason respect. Athlon's premier college basketball annual, the first to appear on the newsstands, projects a fifth-place finish in the conference race. Such a projection is likely to be typical — and inaccurate, according to Strickland.

"We know we're going to get that (lack of respect). But we know what we're capable of doing," he said. "And we're not going to settle for anything less. We're not just talking about winning the Big Eight Tournament. We're talking about the Big Eight."

Strickland will be among those who must provide leadership for a team with only one senior, Melvin Brooks. He's comfortable with such responsibility, said Strickland, who was chosen to the Big Eight's All-Defense and All-Bench teams last season.

He started 13 games, averaging 10.7 points and 3.4 rebounds. He ranked seventh in the conference in free throw percentage (.811) and was second to the departed Eric Piatkowski in three-point shots attempted (117) and made (41).

He was third on the team in assists, and tied for third in the conference in steals, based on average steals per game. His 60 steals gave him 107 for his career, fourth-best in

school history. He needs only 70 more to reach the Cornhusker record.

Leadership comes easily. It's no burden, Strickland said. "I've been in that situation all my life, always looking to step up to a challenge,

and sophomore has prompted talk that his professional future in athletics could be basketball rather than baseball. "I didn't know I'd be doing this well," he said.

He's certainly not complaining, though. Basketball is his first choice. It has been from the beginning.

"I always knew it would be basketball, because of my love of the game," Strickland said.

He is the first Nebraska athlete to be a professional in one sport while competing for the Cornhuskers in another. He wasn't ready to settle on one or the other two years ago. In fact, he talked of trying out for the football team as well. He was an outstanding high school football player until a shoulder injury kept him on the sideline as a senior.

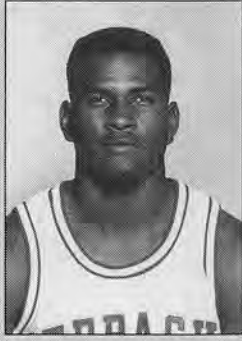
Strickland no longer has the urge to push his skills, and his energy, to the limit. He's putting everything into basketball.

It has his undivided attention, and Cornhusker fans are about to find out just how good he can be. They haven't seen anything yet. ■

The demands of playing two sports, including minor league baseball with the Florida Marlins, took their toll on Erick Strickland during the fall.

"We know we're going to get that (lack of respect). But we know what we're capable of doing."

— Erick Strickland



always enjoying the pressure. I like to lead by example, go hard every night."

That's how Nebraska plans to approach this season. The Cornhuskers will play aggressively, and "we'll give teams matchup problems," said Strickland, who is 6-foot-4 and 210 pounds. He can play the point, big guard or small forward, as can Boone.

Strickland's success as a freshman





THE MISSOURI SERIES

The third-longest series in Nebraska history, the Husker/Tiger matchups have resulted in some of the most controversial and unique games in recent years

Nebraska's first football game against an opponent in the current Big Eight Conference was scheduled for Nov. 5, 1892. Missouri was to play Nebraska in Omaha that day. The game was never played, however, because of George Flippin, Nebraska's captain.



George Flippin's presence caused Missouri to forfeit the first game of the Nebraska/Missouri series.

Because Flippin was black, Missouri refused to play if he did. The game was forfeited to Nebraska which, against Kansas a week later in Lincoln, lost, 12-0.

Such was the inauspicious beginning of the third-longest series in Nebraska's rich football history. Nebraska has played Kansas 100 times, Iowa State 88 times and Missouri 87 times. The Nebraska-Missouri series has been continuous since 1922, the year the Cornhuskers won, 48-0.

Nebraska has dominated the series in recent seasons, winning the last 15 games. Even so, the series has been characterized by the controversial and the unique. So, as

the Cornhuskers prepare to play Missouri once again, this Saturday in Columbia, here are seven games from the Tom Osborne era revisited. They are presented in chronological order and, as will immediately be apparent, don't necessarily represent Husker highlights.

Nov. 13, 1973

Osborne's first loss as a head coach, like that of his Hall of Fame predecessor Bob Devaney, came against Missouri. In 1962 after six victories, Devaney's first team lost to the Dan Devine-coached Tigers, 16-7, at Memorial Stadium. That game began the Cornhuskers' NCAA record of consecutive home sellouts, which continues.

The game, Nebraska's Homecoming, matched coaches who had been assistants together under Duffy Daugherty at Michigan State.

Osborne's first team took a 4-0 record and a No. 2 national ranking to Columbia, Mo., to open Big Eight play and left Faurot Field a 13-12 loser, after a two-point conversion attempt failed. The decision to go for two—considerably less dramatic than the one 10 years later at the end of the 1984 Orange Bowl game against Miami, when a kick almost certainly would have produced a national championship—established Osborne's philosophy of playing to win.

Missouri took a 13-6 lead with 2:03 remaining in the game after recovering a mishandled punt at the Nebraska four-yard line. Quarterback Dave

David Humm's two-point conversion was intercepted, dropping the Huskers to 4-1 following the 13-12 loss at Columbia in 1973.



Humm got the Cornhuskers in position to play for a tie or, in this case, a victory, completing passes of 31 yards to Ritch Bahe and 20 yards to Larry Mushinskie, before going back to Bahe on a 22-yard touchdown with 1:00 left.

Humm's pass on the two-point conversion, however, was intercepted. Nebraska out-gained Missouri, 444 yards to 170. But Coach Al Onofrio's 12th-ranked Tigers led by the slimmest of margins in the most important statistical category.

Oct. 23, 1976

Other than Oklahoma, Missouri was Osborne's biggest conference nemesis in the early years, as the Tigers defeated the Cornhuskers in four of the first six games under Osborne.

Nebraska had won five in a row after opening the 1976 season with a 6-6 tie at Louisiana State and was ranked third nationally. Missouri was ranked 17th, despite having lost two of its first six games.

The Cornhuskers took a 24-23 lead three seconds into the fourth quarter on a 20-yard field goal by Al Eveland, his second of the second half. Nebraska failed to convert the extra point after each of its three touchdowns, the first of which was scored by Kent Smith on a blocked punt.

Missouri lined up third-and-18 from its own two-yard line. Rather than attempting to get some room to punt by running, Tiger quarterback Pete Woods faked a hand-off into the line before passing to Joe Stewart, who didn't stop running until he had reached the end zone. The capacity crowd in Memorial Stadium was stunned. The 98-yarder remains tied for the longest touchdown pass in Big Eight history.

Woods also passed to Stewart on the two-point conversion, and Missouri upset the Cornhuskers, 34-24.

Nov. 18, 1978

The Huskers were coming off a dramatic 17-14 upset of undefeated and No. 1-ranked Oklahoma the previous Saturday. They had recovered from an opening loss at Alabama and were ranked No. 2 when Warren Powers, a former Nebraska player and assistant coach, brought his first Missouri team to Lincoln. The Tigers, 6-4, needed a victory to ensure a bowl bid.

The year before, a Powers-coached Washington State team upset Nebraska, 19-10, in the opener at Memorial Stadium. This was the final regular-season game for both teams.

The Cornhuskers appeared ready to pick up where they had left off against Oklahoma. On the game's first play from scrimmage, Rick Berns ran 82 yards for a touchdown. Only 18 seconds had elapsed. Berns would score a second touchdown and rush for 255 yards on 35 carries, a school-record total at the time.

Before the first quarter was half over, however, Missouri's James Wilder had scored the first of his four touchdowns. The fourth, on a seven-yard run, produced the winning points with 3:42 remaining in the game.

Those were the only points of the fourth quarter. Wilder

also had 181 yards rushing.

The loss has to rank among the low points in Osborne's remarkably successful coaching career. With the opportunity to play Penn State in the Orange Bowl, a match-up with national championship implications, dashed, the Cornhuskers were forced to play a meaningless rematch against Oklahoma in Miami on New Year's night.

The back-to-back coaching victories against Osborne were Powers' last. Missouri would lose the next six to Nebraska before Powers was replaced by Woody Widenhofer. The 1978 upset was the last time, in fact, any Missouri team beat the Cornhuskers.

Nov. 3, 1979

Perhaps the most controversial Missouri-Nebraska game since the Flippin incident in 1892 resulted from an extra-point kick, as the No. 2-ranked Cornhuskers took a 14-6 lead with 11:02 remaining in the second quarter of what would be a 23-20 victory in Columbia.

Nebraska I-back Jarvis Redwine was coming off a 206-yard, three-touchdown performance against Colorado the previous week. But he was injured by Missouri nose-guard Norman Goodman while blocking on a Dean Sukup placement. It appeared that Goodman had purposely attempted to injure Redwine.

Later, Powers said: "We've seen the film and we're just sick about it. We did not know that Goodman was doing what he was doing. There is no place in football for things like that. It's not in our philosophy to play nasty, dirty football. That gets you beat. What happened was out of character for Norman Goodman, out of character for the University of Missouri, and unfortunate for everyone."

Goodman denied that he had intended to hurt Redwine, who had a streak of five 100-yard rushing games end. He managed only 88 yards, total, in the three games beginning with the one against Missouri.

Redwine's replacement, Craig Johnson, rushed for 98 yards, but it was defensive end Derrie Nelson who saved the day for Nebraska. After Sukup kicked a 19-yard field goal to make the score 23-20, Nebraska, Missouri quarterback Phil Bradley tried to pull out the victory. In the closing seconds, Nelson, who had left the game after being dinged, came back to sack Bradley. The tackle was Nelson's 10th of the game.



Former Nebraska player and coach Warren Powers led Missouri to its last win over the Huskers, in 1978.



A defensive stand and Derrie Nelson's sack preserved the Huskers' 23-20 win in the series' most controversial game in 1979.

Oct. 24, 1981

Any questions about Turner Gill's ability to deal with pressure were answered at Faurot Field two weeks after his debut as Nebraska's starting quarterback. The Cornhusker sophomore threw four touchdown passes in a 59-0 victory over Colorado. Missouri was determined to make things much more difficult for Gill, blitzing him throughout the afternoon.

Gill completed only nine of 22 passes, but three of those completions produced first downs during a 10-play, 64-yard drive that produced the 6-0 victory. Fullback Phil Bates scored the touchdown, on a three-yard run with just 23 seconds remaining in the game.

Nebraska's game-winning drive began at its own 36-yard line with 2:36 remaining. With the Tigers still blitzing, Gill completed passes of 13 yards to Irving Fryar and 24 and 21 yards to Todd Brown, the 21-yarder moving the Huskers to the Missouri 4-yard line with time running out.

Oct. 23, 1982

With memories of the 1979 game still fresh, Missouri defensive lineman Randy Jostes drew the ire of Nebraska fans when Gill left the game late in the first half after suffering a mild concussion on a tackle by Jostes who, ironically, was from Ralston, Neb., High School. Missouri led fifth-ranked Nebraska, 7-6, at the time.

Gill's replacement, Bruce Mathison, came on to lead the Cornhuskers to a 23-19 victory. The keys were an 11-play, 70-yard drive culminating in a Mark Schellen touchdown and a 16-13 lead with 4:45 remaining, and a clinching touchdown on a 16-yard run by Mathison two minutes later.

Mathison's touchdown was set up by an interception by Brent Evans, a linebacker from Chesterfield, Mo.

Despite a painful hip-pointer, Nebraska I-back Mike Rozier played and rushed for 139 yards. The victory was the Cornhuskers' fourth in a row, a streak that continued, eventually reaching 22, until the 31-30 loss against Miami in the 1984 Orange Bowl game.

Oct. 19, 1985

Seventh-ranked Nebraska had a difficult time defeating winless Missouri, 28-20, in Columbia. Even though I-back Doug DuBose rushed for 199 yards, the

Cornhuskers managed only one touchdown — on a 22-yard dash by DuBose that came midway through the fourth quarter.

Dale Klein added the extra-point kick to make the score 25-13. Those were all the points Nebraska needed, thanks to Klein, who had kicked six field goals to that point. He added an NCAA record-tying seventh field goal with 4:16 remaining in the game.

Klein's field goals were from 32, 22, 43, 44, 29, 43 and 43 yards. His 22 points by kicking are still a Big Eight single-game record. Klein, a walk-on from Seward, Neb., also set a Cornhusker record for consecutive field goals, kicking nine in a row before finally missing.

Missouri finished the season with a 1-10 record, with its only victory coming against Iowa State. ■



Tom Osborne-coached teams have beaten Missouri in 17 of 21 tries and have a streak of 15 straight wins going into Saturday's game.

STATE

From page 6

At the time, Cornhusker fans were hoping Berringer could hold up long enough to give Frazier an opportunity to recover. But just a couple days after his release from the same hospital where Frazier was treated, Berringer had become more than an interim starter. The redshirt junior from Goodland, Kan., with broad shoulders, a winning smile and a chronically sore right elbow went from being a backup whose ability to lead a national contender was questioned by some to being No. 1.

Nebraska officials indicated they

would investigate the possibility of requesting a hardship ruling for Frazier, even though he participated in more than the NCAA maximum number of games.

"You can request it (medical hardship), but I don't know what the answer will be," Tom Osborne said. "We'll certainly look into that, but right now the main thing we are concerned with is simply that he regains his health and that whatever the problem is, we get that taken care of."

"This has been a little bit of a surprise. We really thought that in a few weeks' time he would have at least a chance to come back and play, and it looks like that's not going to happen now. The doctors have indicated that he won't play,

but I just never say never. There are no absolutes with people. But we're not holding out on that hope. We just hope that his health is good, that his leg is good and that beyond this season he will be OK."

Cornhusker athletic director Bill Byrne said that if it appears such an appeal won't succeed, he probably wouldn't bother to initiate the process.

That's assuming Frazier's problem won't end his career. To suggest he won't play again is premature, and certainly unfair.

In any case, at this writing, Berringer is Nebraska's quarterback for the immediate future. But as the unfortunate conclusion of Frazier's junior season illustrated, nothing can be taken for granted. ■

Stacking It Up On The Line

Nebraska's attacking style of defense requires defensive linemen that fly to the ball and create havoc in a foe's backfield

By JAMES HALE

One of the reasons why Nebraska is considered by many the No. 1 team in college football is the ability to run on defense. The Huskers went to more of an attacking style of defense last season, and it paid off with a near-national championship.

To play this style of defense, you must have quality athletes that can fly around the football. More importantly, you need athletic defensive linemen with speed, great quickness and enough strength to get a push into an opponent's backfield.

Their national exposure has placed the Huskers in prime position with the top two defensive line prospects in California.

Clarence Martin (6-5, 270, 4.8) of Oceanside (El Camino), Calif., is regarded as one of the nation's best. He certainly is one of the better athletes in the country.

"I have never seen a defensive lineman run and explode off the ball like Clarence," El Camino Head Coach Herb Meyer said. "When you have a player this big, yet as fast as many of your skill position players, it's almost unfair for the offensive lineman he lines up against."

Martin is a relative newcomer to the defensive line, with only a half-season on that side of the ball to his credit. He's been a 2-year starter in the offensive line and could also play very well there. However, Martin has been bitten by the defensive bug and considers himself only a defender.

"I really like playing defense because I am the aggressor," Martin said. "It's better to hit than to be hit, and that seems to be the nature of playing defense. I really like what Nebraska is doing defensively."

Martin hopes to visit Nebraska, Notre Dame, Texas, OU and Colorado.

The other nationally-ranked dynamo out of California with an interest in the Huskers is **Clyde Sanders** (6-3, 285, 4.8) of Sacramento (Grant), Calif.. Sanders shines as a pass-rushing defensive end and has managed 28 sacks over the past two

IN THE TRENCHES

Defensive Linemen	Ht.	Wt.	40	High School
Clarence Martin.....	6-5	270	4.8	Oceanside, Calif.
Clyde Sanders.....	6-3	285	4.8	Sacramento, Calif.
Jerry Wisne.....	6-7	273	4.8	Jenks, Okla.
Justin Brown.....	6-5	235	4.7	Newport, Ark.
Derek Allen.....	6-5	270	4.85	Russellville, Ark.

season. Sanders not only can run, he benches 380 and squats 450 pounds. Sanders says he is looking at Texas, Colorado, OU, Texas A&M, Nebraska and Notre Dame.

The Huskers are also recruiting in Big Eight Country. **Jerry Wisne** (6-7, 273, 4.8) of Jenks, Okla., is regarded as one of the top ten defensive linemen in the country. Wisne's father played at Notre Dame, and the Irish are solid leaders. However, Wisne hasn't committed to Notre Dame, and wants to take a close look at Nebraska, Stanford, OU and UCLA as well.

The Huskers also have a great shot at the two best defensive linemen in Arkansas. **Justin Brown** (6-5, 235, 4.7) of Newport, Ark., is nationally ranked and will grow into a dominant pass-rushing defensive end. Already qualified, Brown managed 10 sacks last season and already has four this year. He likes

Nebraska, and the Huskers are in the race with Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, Clemson and Rice.

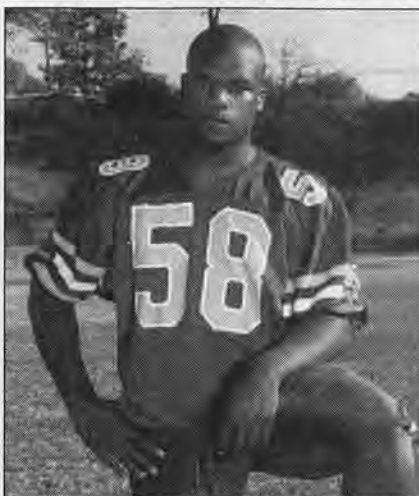
Derek Allen (6-5, 270, 4.85) of Russellville, Ark., is playing dominant football. When he moved recently because of problems at his previous high school in Conway, college recruiters had to track him down, and Allen said he's very glad Husker coaches showed the patience to find him.

Allen says he has set visits with Miami, Nebraska and Pittsburgh, with Colorado, OU, Texas and Texas A&M other contenders. He also said he's interested in Clemson, Iowa, and Virginia.

Nebraska will also dip deep into the heart of Texas to try and land a down lineman or two. **Chris Reed** (6-4, 250, 4.7) of Port Arthur (Austin), Tex., is nationally ranked and the top defensive line prospect in Texas. Reed has visits set with Miami, Nebraska and Pittsburgh. **Chad Pegues** (6-3, 275, 5.0) of Gainesville, Tex., also draws a national ranking, and he says Nebraska leads Miami, Notre Dame, Texas A&M, Texas and OU.

Tim Mittelstadt (6-6, 260, 4.85) of Grandview, Mis., is a great prospect who is looking at Nebraska. However, a knee injury has forced Mittelstadt out for the year. **Kelvin Garmon** (6-4, 315, 4.9) of Ft. Worth (Haltom), Tex., draws a top-five ranking in Texas. He's already set an early December visit to Lincoln, as well as considering Texas A&M, OU, Florida, Texas and Tennessee are other contenders.

Look for Nebraska to land several top athletes to fill the needs of their defensive line. ■



High on Nebraska's list, Clyde Sanders is a dominating defensive end out of California.



"I live day by day — the Lord is my leader and the one who will give me guidance. Coaching is a funny business. You just never know quite where you'll be. There's no major plan."

RON BROWN

Ron Brown, in his eighth season as Nebraska's receivers coach, is an articulate and thoughtful man who has strong convictions. In an interview with *Huskers Illustrated*, Brown, a speaker and writer for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, shares his thoughts on topics ranging from his coaching future to his relationship with Nebraska Head Coach Tom Osborne to the importance of receivers blocking at Nebraska.

HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED: How have the players responded to Nebraska's injury situation at quarterback (starter Tommie Frazier, considered a Heisman Trophy candidate, is out for the rest of the season because of blood clots in his leg, leaving only one scholarship quarterback, — Brook Berringer)?

RON BROWN: I think the players have a lot of confidence in Brook and feel badly for Tommie. It's a really tough, surprising type of situation and yet, life sometimes has its funny twists and turns. The mark of a person with character is their ability to handle adversity. There's a verse in the Bible I've always liked that says, 'If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.'

I think that's the mark of a great team and the mark of a great person — the ability to rise from this kind of situation. We'll see how we respond.

HI: Do you envision staying at Nebraska for a long period of time?

BROWN: I live day by day — the Lord is my leader and the one who will give me guidance. I don't know . . . I've followed some careers in coaching, and I see that as I talk to people and as I read about different coaches, historically, to the present day, there's no blueprint. Coaching is a funny business. You just never know quite where you'll be. There's no major plan.

I don't like to live my life with a long-range plan. It's not that I'm living by the seat of my pants, but I like to maximize the talents that I have

and then let the Lord decide what he wants to do with my life. I feel like I can't go wrong if I become the best receivers coach I can possibly be at Nebraska and if I can give the community and the state of Nebraska the talents I have. With the opportunities to help young children, express my faith and coach receivers, I can't go wrong. I feel if I excel at that, somebody — if God wants me to go somewhere else — is going to want me.

I love it here at Nebraska. I've had opportunities to leave and decided to stay.

HI: Your name comes up sometimes as a future head coach at Nebraska when Osborne retires. Do you ever think about that?

BROWN: No, I don't think a lot about it. I've seen myself come from a person who had no desire to coach at all, and then after getting my master's degree in health and hospital administration, deciding to want to coach. And then going from a semipro team in New Jersey, to being a freshman coach at Brown, to getting fired that year — the whole staff did — to rebounding with the new guy retaining me to be the varsity defensive backs coach . . . and without knowing Tom Osborne — I knew who he was — or knowing anything about the state of Nebraska, to see myself land here at





Nebraska. To me, that says there's no reason for me to have to think and worry about my future. The only thing that I have to do is do the job that I have at hand to the best of my ability, and then ask the Lord to put me in the spot that will most honor him and utilize my abilities as a coach.

If the opportunity arises for me to be a head football coach at a place where I can have a great influence on young people in the state and in the community, I'd love to do it. Whether that be in Nebraska or elsewhere, I'm open.

HI: It sounds like you're pretty happy at Nebraska.

BROWN: If I wasn't happy here, I would have been gone. There has been an opportunity almost every year to go somewhere else.

HI: You considered taking a job as an assistant at Florida State earlier this year. Where have other offers come from?

BROWN: I was offered the head coaching job at Brown University three or four years ago when that came open and turned it down. I was talked to again (by Brown officials) when the job came open this past year and wasn't interested. There have been chances to be the offensive coordinator at Temple, to be a position coach at Penn State.

I've talked to different people

The success eighth-year coach Ron Brown has had with receivers, including Abdul Muhammad (above), prompted Florida State Coach Bobby Bowden (right) to try and hire him away from Lincoln.

about head coaching jobs — San Jose State called. There have been a number of things, but to me, my major goal in life is not to be a head coach. But if that's part of the process, I'd love it.

One of the things I really love about Nebraska is I can have camps for lower-income children and coach football at the same time. I can use that influence in coaching to inspire kids. For a lot of people, that maybe wouldn't excite them. To me, that's what I've been made for. In due time, if it's this year or next year or 15 years from now, being a head coach would be great, as a part of the whole process.

HI: You don't seem driven by the thought of being a head coach.

BROWN: I have to tell you, I don't want to allow myself to be geared into the mentality that a lot of the world has, which says you've got to be No. 1 or you've got to be a head coach for you to have success in this profession. To me, you can get driven into that if you don't watch yourself. So every day I wake up and ask God to help me to think thoughts he wants for me and not



what the world expects from me. I've been through that — I've been cut from five pro football teams. When I was young, I was really geared into the thinking that, 'If I don't make it, maybe I'm a failure, maybe I'm a loser.' After that whole process, I really learned a big lesson that you don't live for other people, you live for who you're supposed to be.

I told (former Husker tight end) Johnny Mitchell one time — sometimes Johnny would get a little anxious in games — and I told him, 'Let the game come to you, don't force the game. If you're doing your job and you're working real hard, the great ones will continue to rise to the top. I feel that way about myself. If I'm doing my job and really working hard and utilizing my abilities, I'm going to be in a position where someone is going to want to hire me.'

See BROWN page 30



Too Early For Hype?

Talk of another trip to the Orange Bowl was tossed around with Heisman rumors centering on Lawrence Phillips

By MIKE BABCOCK

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Lawrence Phillips' pants were ripped above the left thigh pad. His left thumb was wrapped in ice.

The sophomore I-back had just rushed for 117 yards and one touchdown in Nebraska's 17-6 victory against Kansas State. They were tough yards, fashioned from 31 carries, against a defense that expected him.

"Offensively, of course, we were handicapped a little bit in what we wanted to do," Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said. "They knew when (Matt) Turman was in there we weren't going to throw very much, and when (Brook) Berringer was in there we weren't going to run the option very much."

When Turman was in the game, more often than not, he got the ball to Phillips. And when Berringer was in the game, well, more often than not, he got the ball to Phillips, as well.

With 15 yards on two pass receptions added to his rushing yards, Phillips accounted for almost exactly half of Nebraska's total offense.

"Lawrence is a great player," Kansas State Coach Bill Snyder said. "He's pretty special, and he's got a

lot of help. I don't think we played bad defensively. Our defense played well. But Phillips kept fighting and made some plays."

Turman was even more succinct. "Lawrence is amazing," Turman said. "He's a great back."

Phillips also is resilient. If he weren't, he might not have played during the second half.

Late in the first half, Turman threw a screen pass intended for Phillips, on a third-and-8 from the Cornhusker 37-yard line. Even though the pass fell incomplete, the Kansas State defender hit Phillips, who absorbed the blow from the defender's helmet with his left thumb.

When Phillips came to the sideline, the thumb began to throb and swell. So while his teammates went to the locker room, he went to the hospital for x-rays to determine whether the thumb was broken. If it had been, he wouldn't have been allowed to return.

Fortunately for Nebraska, results

of the x-rays were negative. On the Cornhuskers' second possession of the third quarter, about nine minutes into it, Phillips returned to carry on three consecutive downs.



Despite an injured thumb, Lawrence Phillips accounted for nearly half of the Huskers' total offense against Kansas State.

His thumb hurt, Phillips said. But he didn't give it much thought when he was in the game.

"I didn't carry it (the ball) in this hand," he said.

Phillips cradled an imaginary ball by way of demonstration. Actually, he decided, he probably did carry it with his left hand at times. It's not something he's thinks about, he said.

Phillips was prepared to carry 30 times for the second game in a row. "I knew I'd be getting the ball a lot," he said. "That's fine with me. Whatever we have to do to win."

He was visibly upset on the sideline after coming out of the game with the swollen thumb. But the injury wasn't the cause of his anger.

"I didn't think I was finding what was there, I guess," he said.

He rushed for 53 yards in the first half and thought he should have gotten more. That despite the fact he had accounted for 68 of Nebraska's 90 total yards in the first half.

The Cornhuskers' first scoring

OCTOBER 15, 1994

Kansas 41, Iowa St. 23
Nebraska 17, Kansas St. 6
Missouri 24, Oklahoma St. 15
Colorado 45, Oklahoma 7



OCTOBER 22, 1994

Iowa State at Oklahoma State
Kansas State at Colorado
Oklahoma at Kansas
Nebraska at Missouri

CONFERENCE STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	PF	PA
Nebraska	2	0	0	49	9
Colorado	2	0	0	83	30
Kansas	1	1	0	54	44
Missouri	1	1	0	47	53
Oklahoma	1	1	0	41	51
Kansas St.	1	1	0	27	30
Iowa St.	0	2	0	29	75
Oklahoma St.	0	2	0	18	56

OVERALL STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	PF	PA
Nebraska	7	0	0	283	99
Colorado	6	0	0	247	117
Kansas St.	4	1	0	123	54
Kansas	4	2	0	199	98
Oklahoma	3	3	0	112	144
Oklahoma St.	3	3	0	112	129
Missouri	2	4	0	90	149
Iowa St.	0	6	0	89	191

Win - Loss - Tie - Points For - Points Against

drive included six running plays, all by Phillips, who finished the sequence with a touchdown from two yards. He scored standing up.

After Tyrone Williams returned a short, low punt to the Kansas State 28-yard line, it was Phillips for gains of 7, 8, 6, 2, 3 and 2.

The Wildcats knew what was coming. "They were loading up," said Phillips. But there was little they could do to stop him.

Nebraska's offense has been criticized, on occasion, for lacking imagination. But not many Cornhusker fans, if any, were complaining about offensive predictability on a gray, rain-soaked day at KSU Stadium.

Nebraska's offense was no more diverse than the number of ways Turman and Berringer could get the ball to Phillips. They handed it to him. They pitched it to him. And they threw a couple of short passes to him.

"He's a great back, but you have to give a lot of credit to the men up front, too," said Turman.

Nebraska's offensive line eventually wore down the Kansas State defense, pounding relentlessly, down after down. "They always have the mentality that the fourth quarter is theirs," Turman said. "I could sense that feeling on the sideline."

The Cornhuskers dominated the fourth quarter, running nine plays of an 11-play, 75-yard touchdown drive that began in the closing seconds of the third quarter and ended with Jeff Makovicka running 15 yards to score with 11:01 left in the game. They later drove 73 yards on 13 plays for a 24-yard Darin Erstad field goal.

The Cornhuskers moved relentlessly down the field, killing nearly six minutes in the process, on their final possession.

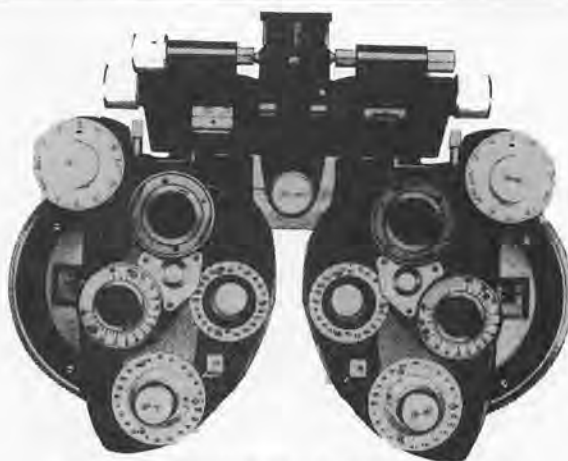
Before the game, there was talk of an Orange Bowl in Kansas State's future. Many Nebraska players and coaches seemed to take exception to such talk. But not Phillips.

Like Nebraska, the Wildcats went into the game without a loss. So "they had just as much right to talk about the Orange Bowl," he said.

"But not now, I guess."

Phillips was matter-of-fact about his performance, which produced some Heisman Trophy talk. He dismissed such talk quickly, the way he had shed Kansas State tacklers. The game wasn't a Heisman showcase for him.

"It was just another game on the way to the Orange Bowl," he said. ■



OUR THOROUGH EYE EXAM IS WELL WORTH LOOKING INTO

At Pearle, you'll get a comprehensive eye exam from an experienced Doctor of Optometry. A doctor who will discuss your history and your lifestyle needs. A doctor who will answer your questions. A doctor who will make sure you get the prescription that's right for you. And isn't that just what you're looking for?



1132 'O' Street
Lincoln, NE
(402) 476-7583

1437 N. Webb Road
Grand Island, NE
(308) 382-9205

Gateway Mall
Lincoln, NE
(402) 464-7416

N-Street Drive In

"Nebraska's Largest Package, Beverage Store"

**DISCOUNT PRICES • CASE DISCOUNTS
KEGS • FINE LIQUORS & WINES AND BEER**

3 Locations to serve you

DOWNTOWN

19TH & N (MAIN STORE)

EAST

70TH & VINE (MEADOW LANE)

SOUTH

56TH & HWY 2 (EDGEWOOD)

477-6077

466-7993

421-1613

BROWN

From page 27

If not, then God has a better plan.

HI: Describe your relationship with Coach Osborne.

BROWN: When I first met Coach Osborne, I was really impressed with him as a man. I had heard about him so much — what kind of Christian man he was, what kind of role model he was and what a great coach he was. I admired those qualities about him from a distance. But when I first came up here for an

interview, I noticed he opened doors for me, he carried my luggage; he was a very gentle, kind man. I saw that there was a genuine sincerity about his faith and about who he was. He went out of his way to do things with kindness, and he still does that. He's a guy that will be the first guy to open the door for me or offer to carry a bag if I'm loaded up. He doesn't expect me to serve him. In fact, he's often the guy who initiates the offer to serve.

I really admire those things about him.

I don't know that myself or anyone has ever really gotten super-close to Tom. Tom can tell you him-

self how close he is to each guy.

He and I have shared some very special moments at times. There's been times when I had to talk with him about my future and making a decision. I feel like those times have really been beneficial. I feel like we've gotten to know each other much better during those times.

We've often done things with (the Fellowship of Christian Athletes) and community relations, where we've spoken together at different places. We've had private moments in a car driving or on an airplane flying to a recruiting trip. I really cherish those times. We've discussed things about what we're reading, what's a good book we've read lately or something like that. I've enjoyed those times with Tom. He has great perspective and great wisdom.

HI: We're switching gears now. You coach at a school where the run is emphasized — the Huskers lead the nation in rushing, averaging more than 400 yards an outing. Is blocking by the receivers emphasized more here than it is at other schools?

BROWN: I believe it is, and I think that's one of the reasons the kids do it so well.

If you really look at it, if you're going to run the ball effectively and lead the nation in rushing offense every year . . . it's just like if you lead the nation in passing offense, you have to have some big plays. You just can't nickel and dime the whole day and expect to get tons of yards. You need some long runs and big plays, and we're the best big-play run team in America.

We have a lot of long runs, and I think a lot of that has to do with the finishing touches by receivers just blasting people down field. So we emphasize that often.

What people don't realize is that to get a lot of our plays started to the perimeter, the receivers have to be able to stay on a block for four, sometimes five to six seconds. Otherwise, it's a 2-yard gain. So we work very hard on point-of-attack blocking. We drill it every day. I'm not sure receivers around the country drill it every day. But we have some kind of drill every day where they're working on their blocking.

My voice probably raises a little when it's time to block. I get juiced up a little more, because a lot of it is determination and desire to do it. ■



Wear GAME DAY CLASSICS.

BRAGGIN' SHIRTS! Our 100% combed white cotton Oxford is the most comfortable and durable dress shirt available anywhere. And it's uniquely embroidered with your school name above the pocket - and logo on the cuff . . . \$60.

Made in America. (Also available in Pinpoint Oxford.)

Call Toll Free Today Special Quantity Prices Available

1-800-508-8570

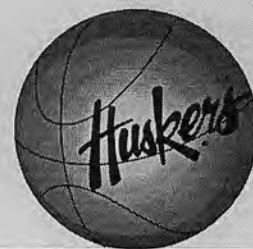
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, EST



GAME DAY CLASSICS
"Team Spirit You Can Take to the Office!"

Hey, what
good are
bragging
rights if you
don't brag?

HUSKER HOOPLA



Nebraska Men's Basketball
regular season opener
December 2-3
Ameritas Classic

*For ticket
information call
402-472-3111.*

Nebraska Women's Basketball
regular season opener
Nov. 25-26
CableVision Classic



Share the victory

Join a Nebraska Athletic Donor Club and assist deserving student-athletes in all 22 sports by underwriting their scholarships.

- All donors receive a free subscription to the Athletic Department newsletter, a window decal and a tax deduction.
- Higher donor levels enjoy press guides, lapel pins and invitations to athletic social events.
- When preferred football and basketball seating and parking becomes available, requests are filled based on the level of donation and length of participation.

Clubs

Director's Club - \$5,000 and up
Husker Award Gold - 2,000 - \$4,999
Husker Award Silver - \$1,000 - \$1,999
Husker Award Bronze - \$500 - \$999
Big Red Cattle Club - \$500 - \$999
Touchdown Club - \$250 - \$499
Husker Beef Club - \$250 - \$499
Scarlet Club - \$100 - \$249

If you would like to join a club please contact Jack Pierce, Jon Bostick or Paul Meyers in the Athletic Development Office at 402-472-2367.

NO TICKET? NO PROBLEM



No matter if you follow football, baseball, basketball or volleyball, the Huskers Illustrated Hotline will bring you all the information you need. With updates on recruiting, scouting and games, you will have immediate information within your reach. All you need is a phone and Husker Spirit.



**\$2.00 for the first
minute
\$1.00 for each minute
thereafter**

**Callers under 18 must
have parents'
permission**



1 DAILY FOOTBALL REPORTS

News straight from the Husker practices. Get the inside on drills, injuries and thoughts on the upcoming game. Updated by 8 p.m. (CST) on practice days.

2 SCOUTING REPORTS

An overview of the Huskers' next foe. Get the stats, matchups and two-deeps. Updated by 8 p.m. (CST) Friday.

3 FOOTBALL GAME RECAP

If you don't get to see the game, call us for a complete game recap. We'll tell you who the heroes were and when the big plays occurred. Online within two hours of the game's end.

4 RECRUITING NEWS

Weekly reports on the players Nebraska is pursuing and who wants to play their college ball for the Big Red. Our weekly reports will break down the Huskers' needs by position. Updated by 8 p.m. (CST) Friday.

5 BASKETBALL NEWS

A featured look at what's going on in Danny Nee's program as it prepares for the upcoming season. Updated by 8 p.m. (CST) Friday.

6 ALL SPORTS ROUNDUP

This is where you can find the latest scores and team records for the non-revenue Husker sports. Updated by 8 p.m. (CST) Friday.

1-900-860-4733

A SERVICE OF HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Huskers Illustrated

For Customer Service Call
1-800-397-3715

Monday through Friday (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) CST